

OIC appeals for Gulf peace talks

NICOSIA (AP) — The Secretary-General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has appealed to Arab and Muslim states to negotiate a final settlement of the Gulf war. In a statement sent to Reuters in Nicosia, Hassan Ali Ghannouchi expressed his disappointment at the slow pace of progress in reaching a final solution to the eight-year-old Gulf war since the ceasefire ended with a U.N.-brokered ceasefire in August 1988. "Today, I have to state my disappointment and impatience, shared by the whole Islamic World, at the slow progress being made in negotiations," Ghannouchi said. He said a recent peace initiative by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein revived hopes that the door to dialogue was not definitely closed. Hussein last Friday proposed that representatives of both sides meet in Baghdad and Tehran under U.N. auspices to reach a common understanding of U.N. Security Council Resolution 660, Resolution 678 and for a complete withdrawal of troops to internationally recognised borders, exchange of prisoners and a commitment to double which side started the war. Iraqi Friday criticised Hussein's proposal calling it a propaganda play using all proposals finally wrapped.

هذه امة الاصل

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation
جورديان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «لاراي»

U.N. chief to meet Gorbachev

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar will visit Moscow next week for talks with President Mikhail Gorbachev and other Soviet leaders and to address an international forum on the environment and development, a U.N. spokesman said Tuesday. He will be in the Soviet capital from Jan. 15 to 17. It is not known when he will see Gorbachev and there is no fixed agenda for their meeting, the spokesman said. The Soviet Union in recent years has called for a greater role for the United Nations. Gorbachev addressed the U.N. General Assembly in December 1988 but cut short his visit because of a major earthquake in Soviet Armenia. Perez de Cuellar, who last visited Moscow in June 1987, will also address a group called the Global Forum on the environment and development. He returns to New York for a family gathering on Jan. 19 to celebrate his 70th birthday.

Volume 15 Number 4286

AMMAN WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1990, JUMADA AL THANI 13, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Brief clashes erupt along Beirut's green line Inter-Shi'ite war 'near end'

BEIRUT (AP) — A Tehran mediator said the fight between rival Shi'ite Muslim militias for mastery of Lebanon's largest sect is nearing its end. Tuesday, while gunmen along the capital's warring line briefly traded shots. Police said no casualties were reported from the 10-minute exchange of gunfire and rocket-propelled grenades between Christian army units and Syrian-backed militiamen across the demarcation line.

But a police statement expressed alarm over the accelerating tempo of civil war true violence, saying four people were killed and 12 wounded in four days.

It was the heaviest toll since a ceasefire called by the Arab League on Sept. 22 halted six months of savage artillery duels between army Gen. Michel Aoun's troops and the Syrian army. That round killed 925 people and wounded 2,744.

Aoun's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri. Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqim Al Tuffah.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the two sides had also agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."

Amal spokesman said Sikiawi, who had a two-year naval training course in Iran, defected because he refused orders to mount a naval attack on the Amal-held oil terminal of Zahran south of the port city of Sidon.

Amal's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri.

Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqim Al Tuffah.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the two sides had also agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."

Amal spokesman said Sikiawi, who had a two-year naval training course in Iran, defected because he refused orders to mount a naval attack on the Amal-held oil terminal of Zahran south of the port city of Sidon.

Amal's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri.

Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqim Al Tuffah.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the two sides had also agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."

Amal spokesman said Sikiawi, who had a two-year naval training course in Iran, defected because he refused orders to mount a naval attack on the Amal-held oil terminal of Zahran south of the port city of Sidon.

Amal's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri.

Yacoub, Luci and Kamed Al Louz. The area has long been a launching pad for guerrilla raids into the Israeli-controlled zone in South Lebanon. The 2,500-strong, predominantly Falangist SLA and an estimated 1,500 Israeli troops jointly patrol the enclave along the southern border.

Amal Jibril, leader of the Syrian-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, accused PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat of instigating the fighting in the Iqim Al Tuffah.

He also accused Arafat loyalists of collaborating with the Israeli army and their Lebanese allies.

Jibril condemned the recent deployment of Arafat's men as a disengagement force. Tehran Radio reported that Jibril also met with Besharati to discuss the situation.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."

Amal spokesman said Sikiawi, who had a two-year naval training course in Iran, defected because he refused orders to mount a naval attack on the Amal-held oil terminal of Zahran south of the port city of Sidon.

Amal's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri.

Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqim Al Tuffah.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the two sides had also agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Earlier warnings from the PLO-backed underground leadership of the uprising said suspected collaborators should be given an opportunity to repent and make amends before any killings were carried out.

Also Tuesday, military sources said Israel has jailed a soldier for saying on army radio it should leave the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Radio announcer Gil Komar was sentenced to 14 days in a military prison for breaching regulations that prohibit enlisted soldiers from expressing a political opinion in a public forum.

Having played the popular song "Everything Will Be All Right" on his radio show, Komar said: "Everything will be all right if we leave the territories."

His remarks sparked angry calls from listeners.

The song, by David Broza, recalls the 1977 visit to Israel by the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

"We said let's make peace and live as brother. And he (Sadat) said let's go, just withdraw from the territories," runs the lyric.

KUNA gave few details of the foreign minister's talks but said they agreed their deputies should meet in Ankara next month to iron out outstanding issues.

The Kuwait meeting was the second round of talks on the minority problem and the first since Zivkov was ousted from power in November.

KUNA quoted Turkish diplomats as saying the issue had been solved by the new government's decision to allow freedom of worship.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad welcomed his guests at the Bayan Palace, 13 kilometres south of the city centre.

Sheikh Sabah vowed in a speech that Kuwait, which holds the rotating presidency of the 46-member Organisation of the Islamic Conference, will continue its mediation until a settlement is achieved.

Dozens of police cars with blue lights flashing lined the streets around the house and units of Kuwait's Elite Special Forces stopped cars trying to enter the neighbourhood.

Witnesses heard the siren and saw scores of people running from the area of Shaikh's house in the town of Jahra 30 kilometres from the centre of Kuwait.

Sheikh Jaber confirmed that two "sound" grenades had been fired but he said police used them only after crowds tried to break through a police cordon.

Witnesses said police used rubber and wooden truncheons to prevent demonstrators trying to reach the meeting site.

"The police were shoulder to

shoulder and wouldn't let them through," Ahmad Al Bishara, a former vice-president of Kuwait University, told Reuters. "The demonstrators were trying to convince them peacefully."

He said he himself received about six blows when police began beating the crowd.

Witnesses said at least six other people were also hit, including 70-year-old former member of parliament Mohammad Ahmad Rashid, who received two blows on the back.

Sheikh Jaber said he had no information on any beatings. He said the demonstrators had been told a week earlier the gathering was illegal, and added that the protesters represented only a tiny minority of Kuwaiti opinion.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."

Amal spokesman said Sikiawi, who had a two-year naval training course in Iran, defected because he refused orders to mount a naval attack on the Amal-held oil terminal of Zahran south of the port city of Sidon.

Amal's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri.

Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqim Al Tuffah.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the two sides had also agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."

Amal spokesman said Sikiawi, who had a two-year naval training course in Iran, defected because he refused orders to mount a naval attack on the Amal-held oil terminal of Zahran south of the port city of Sidon.

Amal's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri.

Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqim Al Tuffah.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the two sides had also agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."

Amal spokesman said Sikiawi, who had a two-year naval training course in Iran, defected because he refused orders to mount a naval attack on the Amal-held oil terminal of Zahran south of the port city of Sidon.

Amal's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri.

Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqim Al Tuffah.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the two sides had also agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."

Amal spokesman said Sikiawi, who had a two-year naval training course in Iran, defected because he refused orders to mount a naval attack on the Amal-held oil terminal of Zahran south of the port city of Sidon.

Amal's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri.

Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqim Al Tuffah.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the two sides had also agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."

Amal spokesman said Sikiawi, who had a two-year naval training course in Iran, defected because he refused orders to mount a naval attack on the Amal-held oil terminal of Zahran south of the port city of Sidon.

Amal's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri.

Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqim Al Tuffah.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the two sides had also agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Amal's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri.

Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqim Al Tuffah.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the two sides had also agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."

Amal spokesman said Sikiawi, who had a two-year naval training course in Iran, defected because he refused orders to mount a naval attack on the Amal-held oil terminal of Zahran south of the port city of Sidon.

Amal's deputy foreign minister, Mohammad Ali Besharati said he fighting between the Tehran-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, and the Syrian-aligned Amal Movement in South Lebanon would stop soon.

"It is nearing its end. A ceasefire will be proclaimed soon and the warring factions will withdraw to their original lines," Besharati told reporters after a two-hour meeting in Muslim west Beirut with Amal chief Nabih Berri.

Berri said he told Besharati that Amal would adhere to the ceasefire if Hezbollah agrees to withdraw from all territory it conquered during the previous 17 days of fighting in South Lebanon's Iqim Al Tuffah.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said the two sides had also agreed to exchange prisoners at the same time as the withdrawal.

Hezbollah said in a statement it was ready to stop shooting and begin simultaneous talks for durable ceasefire that would "turn the guns against the Israeli enemy."

The South Lebanon fighting killed 94 people and wounded 275 since it erupted on Dec. 23. Amal and Hezbollah called a 7-hour ceasefire Monday that allowed Red Cross workers to remove corpses from the battlefield.

Police said the truce held through Tuesday. The two factions have been vying for control of Lebanon's 1.2 million-strong Shi'ite community for more than two years.

Amal disclosed Tuesday that Sheikh Mohammad Sikiawi, a prominent Hezbollah cleric who defected to its ranks in South Lebanon's port city of Tyre last week, was Hezbollah's "naval operations commander."



H.M. King Hussein

Al Hussein hopes world changes will have positive effect on Mideast peace

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday expressed hope that the current world changes and the trend towards world peace would favourably affect the Middle East region where peoples can benefit from a just and comprehensive peace to focus their efforts towards building a better future for the coming generations.

"But peace can not be achieved here at the expense of the rights and the lands of the Palestinian people and their legitimate representative, the PLO," King Hussein said at a meeting with a delegation representing the National Council of World Affairs Organisation and the United Nations Universities Association congregation in the United States.

"The PLO and the Palestinian people have offered all they could for the sake of reaching a just peace with Israel, but the Israeli leadership seems to be afraid of peace, and today, it has failed to respond to the Palestinian positive stand with a similar

move that can give an impetus to the Middle East peace efforts, the King pointed out. In reviewing the Middle East issue with the delegation, the King dwelt on the developments in the Palestinian problem, the situation in Lebanon and the Gulf, where the King stressed the need for a lasting peace between Iran and Iraq.

The meeting, at the Royal Court, was attended by Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zaid Ben Shaker and the King's political advisor Adnan Abu Odh.

Baker losing hope for Mideast breakthrough

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has told a visiting foreign minister he is losing hope of achieving a breakthrough that would lead to Israeli-Palestinian peace talks and said he may soon drop his initiative, diplomatic sources said Tuesday.

The sources said Baker sounded very pessimistic on the Middle East in a private meeting with Norwegian Foreign Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik at the State Department Monday.

"It was very surprising and worrying," said one source present at the meeting. "Bondevik urged Baker to persevere and said his initiative represented the only hope of progress but Baker said that with so many other things happening in the world, he might soon decide to devote all his time to areas where there was some hope of getting things done," the source said.

His account of the conversation was confirmed by others present at the meeting.

Baker put forward a five-point peace plan last October aimed at paving the way to what would be unprecedented direct talks between Israel and a Palestinian delegation on how to arrange elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

After weeks of laborious discussions, Israel and Egypt, which is acting on behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), accepted the points but each attached certain, contradictory conditions.

Israel insisted on having a veto over members of the Palestinian delegation to the talks to minimise PLO influence. The PLO said it must name the delegates. Baker, who will meet Israeli

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Washington next week, hopes that giving Palestinians some say over their affairs through elections would take the edge off the two-year Palestinian uprising in the territories which has claimed over 800 lives.

Only last week, administration officials sounded optimistic about the prospects of arranging a ministerial meeting in Washington between Baker, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and his Egyptian counterpart Hosni Mubarak to decide the final details of the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

But State Department Spokesman Margaret Tutwiler said Monday that meeting was now in doubt.

"Obviously there is work to be done. It is absurd to have a meeting if the meeting produces nothing. You have to feel fairly confident that having a meeting is worthwhile, not just a meeting for meeting's sake," Tutwiler said.

Although administration officials have avoided blaming any party for the holdup, most analysts see Israel's right-wing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir as the main stumbling block to progress. Shamir, backed up by his hard-line stance last week by banning several West Bank Palestinian leaders from travelling abroad, a move condemned by the United States as sending the wrong signal to Palestinians interested in peace.

Several of those affected by the travel ban were seen as obvious candidates for inclusion in the Palestinian delegation.

Tutwiler called on Israel to review and reverse the banning orders.

Kadumi: U.S. unfit as Mideast peace broker

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — A Palestinian leader said Tuesday that the United States is unfit as a peace broker in the Middle East because it consistently backs Israel.

Farooq Kadumi, the foreign minister of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, told the Associated Press in an interview that the U.S. administration is not serious in its effort to bring about peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

"The United States is totally biased toward Israel. ... How can it be an honest and fair broker for a peace settlement?" he said. Kadumi said the United States is trying to impose what he described as "a white flag settlement" on the PLO by forcing it to accept Israeli conditions for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He referred to the expected meeting between the foreign ministers of Egypt and Israel with American Secretary of State James Baker III in Washington as "useless exercise because it deviates from the genuine path of peace."

Ethnic Turkish immigrants say no rush to return to Bulgaria

EDIRNE, Turkey (AP) — Despite Bulgaria's decision to restore rights to its minority ethnic Turkish population, tens of thousands who fled to Turkey last year show no signs of returning home.

"The relaxation of restrictions in Bulgaria on the rights of the Turkish minority may eventually affect the situation, but we have seen no sign of it so far," said Unal Erkan, the governor of Edirne.

Most of the 320,000 ethnic Turks who streamed from Bulgaria to Turkey last summer appear to be watching and waiting to see if Bulgarian officials make good on their promise to end the forced assimilation campaign begun six years ago by former Bulgarian Communist leader Todor Zhivkov.

Under that campaign, ethnic Turks had to change their Muslim names to Slavic ones and were forbidden to speak Turkish or practise Islamic rites. The new reform government announced on Dec. 29 — although still controversial in Bulgaria — would rescind the policy.

"The separation of Turk and Bulgarian and discrimination against us will never stop," said Fikret Gogelci, a 34-year-old bus driver who took part in last summer's exodus and now lives in Edirne, a border town in western Turkey.

The Kapikule border gate in

Edirne was nearly deserted, with only a family of four waiting to depart.

It was a far cry from the scene last summer, when cars packed with possessions jammed the border gate after the Bulgarian government provided passports for minority rights in May.

About 4,000 people were entering Turkey daily until the government in Ankara imposed a visa requirement in August to stem the tide. Thousands of ethnic Turks subsequently returned to their native land, citing a lack of housing and jobs in Turkey and separation from family members who had to wait a long time for visas.

By Monday, the returnees numbered 96,500, border officials said. But, they added, only about 100 were returning daily, compared with a 1,000 a month ago, and about 50 ethnic Turks were still coming in each day.

At the train station in Edirne, 20 ethnic Turks, most of them elderly, were waiting for the train to Bulgaria.

"This is no place for older people. I cannot enter any job, I am only free to enter the mosque," said Kadir Mehmet, 60.

Some said they were encouraged by the new Bulgarian government's reversal of the assimilation policy. Bulgarian authorities have promised to allow the minority of 1.5 million to use

their Muslim names and Turkish language and to practice Islam.

The policy change, however, has prompted protests and work stoppages in the country of nine million. The demonstrations are led by members of Bulgaria's Slavic majority suspicious of the loyalties of the ethnic Turks.

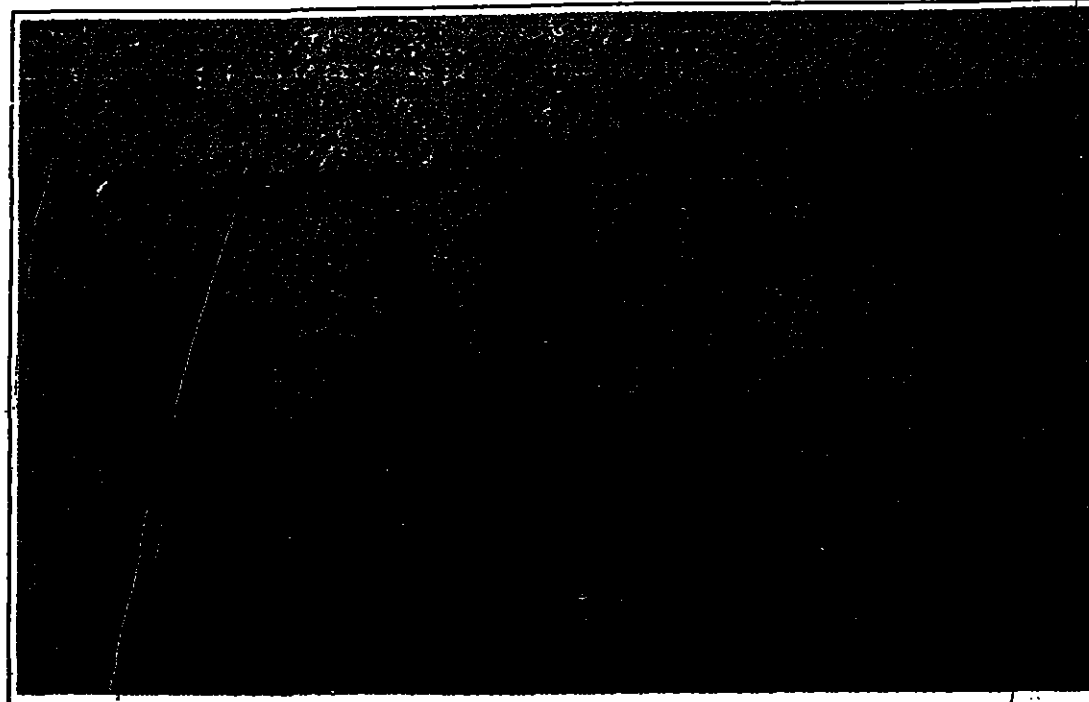
Since last summer, the immigrants have become settled in Turkey. In Edirne, the ethnic Turks have been moved from tents to small, prefabricated houses set up on a treeless, windswept lot. Despite the harsh living conditions, they appear determined to stay.

The rest of the immigrants have dispersed throughout Turkey, with about one-fourth of the group settling in the western city of Bursa and the second-largest group going to Istanbul.

Mehmet Erturk, a leader of the emigrant community in Bursa, said in a telephone interview that most ethnic Turks there did not believe the Bulgarian promises for the return of their ethnic and religious rights.

"This is only for show, people here believe," he said. "Also, those who could not manage here are gone and the rest are pretty well settled."

A retired professor of Balkan studies in Istanbul, Salih Bakici, said: "As long as the Communists are in power (in Bulgaria), we will never fully get back our rights."



ANTI-SLICK EFFORT: Moroccan workmen carry part of an inflatable oil boom on the Atlantic coast near the rich oyster lagoon of Oualidia after an Iranian tanker spilled 70,000 tonnes of crude oil into the sea in late December.

Families of ICRC hostages appeal for their freedom

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The visiting families of two kidnapped Swiss relief workers have appealed to their captors to "unlock your prison doors immediately" and set free their loved ones.

Elio Enriquez and Emmanuel Christen worked as orthopedic technicians at an International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) clinic in South Lebanon's port city of Sidon 40 kilometres south of Beirut where they were kidnapped last Oct. 6.

"I appeal to you to unlock the door and allow them to come freely from Sidon to Beirut," Mrs. Mariam Christen said.

"I would like to tell my son how much we miss him and are looking forward to seeing him back among us," she added.

"I appeal to their captors to release them immediately because their seizure is harming thousands of people in need of their assistance," said Mrs. Graziella Enriquez.

The Sidon orthopedic centre was closed down immediately after their kidnapping.

Mrs. Christen said the families came to Beirut "to see the place Elio and Emmanuel loved and lived in for the last two years and to meet the people who are doing their best to ensure their safe release."

Elio's twin sister Marie said

that "if Elio and Emmanuel can hear us, I want them to be courageous because they have lots of friends here and in Switzerland who have shown their support against this injustice."

The families were accompanied by Christophe Mariani, the ICRC official responsible for the Middle East desk, and Angelo Gnadedinger, general delegate for the Middle East and North Africa.

They held a one-hour press conference at the seaside Summerland hotel in west Beirut.

They displayed a petition calling for the two men's release, bearing 70,000 signatures collected by Swiss newspapers and a special support committee for the hostages.

Michel Dufour, head of the all-Swiss 29-member delegation in Lebanon, said more than 50,000 letters of sympathy had been received by the local delegation.

Dufour said the letters would be taken by the families back to Switzerland to "show Lebanese concern and consciousness towards our colleagues."

"No group has claimed responsibility for kidnapping Christen, 32, and Enriquez, 23. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Sidon police say the pair are held by the Fatah Re-

volutionary Council, a breakaway guerrilla group led by Abu Nidal. The organisation has denied any responsibility.

Christen and Enriquez are among 18 westerners held hostage in Lebanon. The others are eight Americans, four Britons, two West Germans, an Irishman and an Italian.

The longest-held is U.S. journalist Terry A. Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press. He was kidnapped March 16, 1985.

Hanish, who attended the news conference at the Summerland hotel with the families, said ICRC officials had made several high-level contacts with Arab officials to try to get the hostages freed.

He said several governments in the region and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, whom ICRC officials met twice, told the humanitarian organisation they would do all they could to gain the captives' freedom.

He said the ICRC also contacted the Swiss government but it was not involved in any negotiations.

Colleagues of the hostages and a group of Lebanese handicapped also appealed for Christen and Enriquez to be freed "so that they could resume their humanitarian work in the country."

Czech delegation in Israel to discuss ties

TEL AVIV (R) — Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry officials arrived in Israel Tuesday for talks on renewing diplomatic ties cut by Prague during the 1967 Middle East war after similar moves by Hungary and Poland.

Israeli officials said the Czechoslovak delegation, headed by Foreign Ministry Director for Middle East Affairs Vazlav Jizny, was to meet Foreign Minister Moshe Arens Tuesday evening. The visit came as Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn was on the final day of a three-day stay, the highest-ranking visit to Israel by an official of the Warsaw Pact states that broke relations in 1967.

Of the Soviet bloc states, only Romania maintained diplomatic ties during that period.

Horn said Monday Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth would visit Israel in late February, less than six months after Hungary became the first East European country to restore relations.

Israel was also moving towards full ties with Poland, with Israel Radio reporting Tuesday that Arens would go to Warsaw

next month to sign an agreement on resumption of relations.

The Israeli foreign ministry declined to confirm or deny the report, but said Monday it expected relations to be restored in late February.

East Germany has also expressed willingness to establish relations for the first time with Israel, including accepting a share of responsibility for Germany's Nazi past and paying reparations to Holocaust survivors.

Israel has yet to respond. Israel has worked hardest at restoring ties with the Soviet Union, home to the largest group of Jews outside the United States and Israel.

The two countries have exchanged consular delegations but there is still no official discussion on full ties.

However, while the East European visits to Israel were underway, Israeli Science Minister Ezer Weizman was in Moscow this week on the highest-level visit since the Soviet Union orchestrated the cut in diplomatic relations.

Iran says international drug syndicate smashed

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian anti-narcotics agents smashed an international drug-trafficking ring in the country's western Bakhartan province, and arrested 14 smugglers with a small cache of arms, Tehran Radio reported Monday.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said the network had been active in a number of countries, including Turkey, which borders Bakhartan.

The detained ring members admitted to smuggling more than 7,000 kilograms of opium and 800 kilograms of morphine, the radio said.

It added that efforts were underway to arrest other ring leaders still at large.

The Islamic Republic News Agency, also monitored in Nicosia, reported Monday that about 1,500 kilograms of narcotics were seized from drug traffickers in the past ten days.

IRNA quoted an unidentified official of the Islamic Revolutionary Committee, Iran's main law enforcement agency, as saying that 60 drug smugglers had been arrested in connection with the seizures.

Possession of even small quantities of drugs with intent to sell carries a mandatory death sentence under Iranian law.

Official media reports have said more than 1,000 convicts were hanged in Iran last year for drug-related offences.

But opposition and other independent groups maintain that many political prisoners were among those executed.

More than 50,000 drug addicts throughout the country have been sent to hard labour camps or are imprisoned.

IRNA reported the committee official as saying that of the 50,000 addicts, 19,000 were addicted to heroin.

France resumes grain shipments to Libya

PARIS (R) — France has resumed grain shipments to Libya in a sign of easing tension between the two countries, government sources said Monday.

Colonel Muammar Qadhafi's government severed shipping and communications links with France in early December in protest against Paris's immigration policies and its reluctance to deliver three Mirage fighter planes held in France since 1986.

"It's my understanding that grain shipments have started up again," an Agriculture Ministry official said.

A French Foreign Ministry spokesman said tele links between France and Libya were now functioning normally but telephone communications were still cut.

Political relations between the two countries, which have never been good, worsened in November when Qadhafi accused President Francois Mitterrand of oppressing Muslim immigrants.

Shortly after France revoked a decision to deliver three Mirage fighter planes to Libya.

The planes have been held back since 1986, when the European Community imposed sanctions against Libya because of its alleged involvement in terrorism.

Telephone and tele links were severed on Dec. 7, a day after direct traffic between French and Libyan ports was suspended.

The Libyan move jeopardised a French sale of 40,000 tonnes of barley worth \$9 million francs (\$9 million).

A first shipment of the barley was delivered in late December, a grain trader said.

British Muslims on week-long protest against Rushdie book

LONDON (AP) — British Muslims have begun a week-long vigil outside the headquarters of Viking Penguin, publisher of "The Satanic Verses," while organisers appeared to distance themselves from the death threat against author Salman Rushdie.

At a news conference to announce the vigil, Mugharam Al Ghamdi, chairman of the U.K. Action Committee on Islamic Affairs, said the demonstration was a reminder that the affair, begun with the book's publication in September 1988, was not over.

Muslims say "The Satanic Verses" blasphemes Islam by associating the Prophet Muhammad with prostitutes and suggesting the Koran was the Prophet's invention, not the work of God.

On Feb. 14, 1989, the late Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini issued a religious edict calling on Muslims to kill Rushdie.

Khomeini's action drove the 42-year-old Indian-born writer into hiding and two Iranian clerics offered a bounty of \$5.2 mil-

lion for Rushdie's death. "Since the sensationalism has receded what remains is a genuine and permanent bitterness in the hearts and minds of ordinary Muslims," Ghamdi said.

Although he warned that the bitterness would increase if the book were not withdrawn and other demands met, he and the U.K. Action Committee did not support the death threat.

We appeal all the time to Muslims in Britain to keep within the limits of the law," said Iqbal Saraceni, a convenor of the committee. "We will not condone any overstepping of the law."

The U.K. Action Committee, however, refused to condemn the death threat.

"It is naive to think that the world's one billion Muslims will not do anything or say anything to such vilifying insults," Ghamdi said.

Threats also were made to Viking Penguin. A police officer is on 24-hour duty outside and three security guards now watch over the headquarters' plash, entrance

hall, with its X-ray machine of the kind used for luggage at airports. Publisher's spokesman Bob Gregory said there was no connection between the Muslim's vigil and publication of a paperback edition of "The Satanic Verses."

"There is no date set for publication of the paperback," Gregory said. "From that you cannot assume that a paperback version will be published or will not be published."

Ghamdi said Britain's 1.5 million Muslims want "the Satanic Verses" withdrawn from publication and Britain's blasphemy laws changed to incorporate other religions besides Christianity.

For the next five days, Muslims from across Britain will wear green plastic vests emblazoned with "British Muslims" in white lettering and hold handmade signs proclaiming "No Rushdie porn," "Hypocrisy in high places," and "Put honour back on the agenda," outside the Kensington, West London, Penguin offices.

No cut in U.S. aid to Israel, senator says

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — U.S. Senator Pete Wilson said Monday he foresaw no cut of Israeli military aid as a result of the easing of cold war tensions and tougher Soviet attitude about arms sales to Arab countries.

The Republican lawmaker, who is a candidate in the California gubernatorial race said there was a "little less generosity" on the part of the Soviets in offering discounts but no clear sign of a reduction in the level of arms sales.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, he said, "may be less willing that his predecessors to be involved in support of Arab states, but there doesn't seem to be any reduction in military sales."

He said the United States still needed its strategic relationship with Israel, which receives \$3 billion a year in U.S. grants, including \$1.8 billion for military use.

"I don't think... it yet indicates any change of circumstances that would warrant a reduction of our foreign assistance for Israel either in military or domestic (economic) aid," said Wilson.

"I don't think it will be right for the (strategic) relationship to be abandoned. I think it needs to be strengthened and expanded," he said.

Wilson, who met Monday with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and toured Israel aircraft industries, strongly endorsed the joint U.S.-Israel effort to develop the Arrow missile, a Star Wars project for an anti-missile defence system.

The \$60 million-a-year project, which will need U.S. approval to proceed towards a production phase, was needed "primarily because of the spread of missile capabilities throughout the Middle East," he said.

Wilson, the senior Republican on the Senate Armed Forces

Committee, said the project which he helped to initiate "getting somewhere and is ahead of schedule."

He declined to say if the aid package was nearing a test firing but said that deployment was years away.

The project could be endangered by cuts made to the U.S. deficit in line. On question is whether follow-on will be supported. I think it will be supported. I will support it strongly," he said.

Wilson said there was no question of support for Israel in Congress as a result of Israel's handling of the two-year Palestinian uprising.

But he accused the U.S. media of adopting a pro-Palestinian bias.

"I think the American public has probably been disoriented by the television network news, particularly," he said. "Do I think there is a pro-Palestinian bias in the media? Yes, I think there is."

As an example, he said, television reports on the uprising failed to note that Palestinian protests "are not spontaneous riots" but "are orchestrated by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)." The senator distributed a document accusing the PLO of trying to "manipulate and sacrifice" the youth of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to "damaged Israel's image."

"The PLO and its sponsors seek to exploit the intifada, escalating violence and seeking to provoke an IDF (Israeli defence force) reaction of 'excessive force' for the benefit of American TV network news audiences," he said.

Wilson, 56, on his fourth visit to Israel, said withdrawing Israel's "pre-1967 borders" would leave the Jewish state "dangerously vulnerable."

Iran leader bans attacks on regime

NICOSIA (R) — Supreme Iranian leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has banned malicious criticism of government officials as sinful and seditious.

Khamenei's injunction followed sharp criticism of the government in parliament and press for hosting Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu on the eve of his downfall last month.

"The key to the success of the executive, the judiciary and the legislature is their decisive backing by the nation," he said in a statement read Monday on Tehran Radio, monitored in Cyprus.

"Any act or word which weakens the people's trust in these powers and undermines their support in the least is (forbidden on religious grounds) and a national treason."

Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati was grilled in parliament last week over the Ceausescu visit.

Khamenei denied attacks on the ministry as blows to men in the front lines of Iran's diplomatic war against a hostile world.

More than 200 legislators have written him an open letter, renewing their allegiance to his position as supreme leader.

"Of course parliament should carry out its duties," Khamenei replied. "But both the deputies and the people are able to differentiate between actions stemming from legal duties and from personal and political intentions."

Hardliners have also criticised the economic policies of President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, saying a greater role for the private sector and foreign investment was needed to achieve the principles of social justice and independence.

Somali president dismisses cabinet ahead of reshuffle

MOGADISHU (R) — Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre has dismissed his government ahead of a cabinet reshuffle, state-run radio Mogadishu said Tuesday.

The radio quoted a brief statement from the presidency as saying a new government would be formed as soon as possible.

The presidential statement gave no reason for the aging strongman's decision to sack his entire cabinet.

Last Friday Ogaa, the official newspaper of the ruling Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party, called for the government to be dismissed "for failing to tackle the

country's economic and social problems."

Most traditional Western donors have suspended economic aid to Somalia, given by civil rights activists in protest against human rights abuses by government security forces and rampant corruption in the administration.

In an effort to end the war, Siad Barre has promised to restore multi-party democracy and hold fresh parliamentary elections by the end of 1990.

Generally believed to be in the late 70s or 80s, Siad Barre has announced any plans for his retirement after seizing power in a 1969 coup.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Korm
15:45 Programme review
15:45 Children's programme
17:30 Educational programme
18:30 News summary in Arabic
18:45 Cairo news message
19:30 Local programme
20:30 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Arabic programme
22:30 News in English
23:40 "The Petra"

PROGRAMME TWO

18:40 Documentary
19:40 News in French
19:45 Varieties
19:50 News in Hebrew
20:30 Baby Boom
21:10 Heart of the Matter
22:40 News in English
23:40 Final Days

PRAYER TIMES

05:40 Fair
06:31 (Sunrise) Dula
11:30 Dushar
14:24 'Ar
18:47 Mighreb
18:19 Zaha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swatish, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 637785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Assumption Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Ternate Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Assumption Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 623383, Tel. 623543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772521
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Assumption International Church Tel. 623543
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 611235
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Tel. 815817, 64952

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology
It will be partly cloudy with a chance for scattered local showers and winds will be northwesterly moderate, in Amman, which will be northerly moder-

ate and sea calm.

Amman 2/11
Aqaba 7/19
Daba 2/13
Jordan Valley 5/17

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 9, Aqaba 17. Humidity readings: Amman 60 per cent, Aqaba 42 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Ahmad Al Nattour 633934
Dr. Issa Haddad 897007
Dr. Abdel Al Adhah 623537
Dr. Ahmad Othman 786384
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Aseem pharmacy 637035
Nisrallah pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636750
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shameel pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Issam Al Saleh ()
Al Sham's pharmacy (68236)

ZARQA:
Dr. Ziad Hawatneh ()
Khalil pharmacy 985117

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 89228
Blood Bank 771221
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police Department 896390
Public Security Department 630221
Hotel Complaints 652800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010290
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 771111
Radio Jordan 680110
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 06-32200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 06-32200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Finnish Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalil Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Al-Balad Maternity, J. Amn 624412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642632
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsat 664171/4
Shamsat Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muhsin Hospital 667221/9
The Islamic, Abdali 661275/7
The Islamic, Abdali 661646
Al-Ahli, Abdali 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Amman 77111/26
Army, Marja 891817/5
Queen Alia Hospital 62240/20
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Im Saad Hospital (09)986732

IRBID:
Prince Sultan Hospital (02)275535
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275
Im Al Nafesa Hospital (02)547100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)32200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

09:10 Jeddah (RJ)
09:15 Amman (RJ)
09:30 London, Cairo (RJ)
10:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
10:30 Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:50 Dhaka, Kuwait (RJ)
10:55 Kuwait, Dhaka (RJ)
11:00 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:05 New Delhi (RJ)
11

Housing ministers to discuss cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministers of public works and housing in the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) are due to open a meeting here Wednesday to discuss cooperation among the four countries based on a joint report by a technical team that met Sunday and Monday.

The technical team pooled together reports by technical committees working on consultancy and engineering from operating in the four-member states, matters related to housing, unifying laws and legislations, training, unified specifications and standards for construction operations and other related topics.

Egyptian Minister of Reconstruction and Housing Hassan Ibrahim Kafrawi, who arrived in Amman Tuesday to take part in the meeting, said in a statement that Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen were trying to pool their resources in one of the most important sectors leading to economic development.

The housing sector is considered as one of the main foci of the ACC which was set up last February to pave the ground for full integration among the four states, Kafrawi said.

He said apart from means of boosting cooperation in housing and public works and construction, the four ministers will focus attention on the establishment of a joint data bank to help the four states in this process.

Meanwhile, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Tuesday that the preparatory meeting conducted by technical committees had prepared the topics to be discussed at Wednesday's ministerial conference.

Tourism increases by 4.8 per cent over 1989

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan was visited by 609,000 Arab and foreign tourists from various parts of the world in the first 11 months of 1989, registering an increase of 4.8 per cent over the number of visitors in 1988, Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kabarti said Tuesday.

Nearly 71.5 per cent of the total number of visitors last year came from Arab countries, while 19.3 per cent came from Europe, 7.5 per cent from America and 1.7 per cent came from other countries like Japan, Australia and New Zealand, the minister said at a meeting with representatives of tourist offices in Jordan.

Kabarti reviewed cooperation between the ministry and the private sector especially in conducting campaigns to market Jordan's tourist attractions abroad.

The minister said this year the Ministry of Tourism will cooperate with the various tourist offices and tour operators in publishing brochures and posters, tourist documentary films and television programmes designed to promote Jordan's tourism sites.

"This work will be conducted in cooperation with Royal Jordanian (RJ), and tourist hotels which will be bringing in tourist groups," he said.

Kabarti said that the Ministry of Tourism is in the process of working out a legal framework for the implementation of the programme.

Defeated candidates lose appeal

By Mariam M. Shalabi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Two contesting candidates from the Ajloun district, who ran for seats in the Lower House of Parliament in the Nov. 8 elections, have lost their case with the Parliamentary Appeals Committee, deputy and appeals committee member Faris Nabulsi confirmed Tuesday.

"The contestants Najib Elias Haddad and Farrah Masa Rahad could not provide sufficient evidence to prove their defeat to Ajloun parliamentarianism Jamal Haddad was in any way a mistake or miscalculation," Nabulsi said.

Another committee member commented that "We should not be talking about this until it goes to the speaker of the House and the House votes to agree on our decision." Deputy Nayef Hadid, head of the appeals committee told the Jordan Times. "This Thursday we will study the case of candidate Abu Akim Inbeideh, who is contesting the seat he lost to Deputy Nawaf Khawaldeh of Mafrag district," Hadid added.

While Hadid said that the House must first approve the committee's decision to dismiss the complaints of the two Ajloun candidates, Nabulsi said, "we made the decision already, the House will not vote on it again."

The appeals committee has heard the testimonies of the two contestants as well as talked to the responsible personnel in the Ajloun district. "We even went as far as bringing over the voting boxes and looked at the voting cards. We allowed Deputy Jamal Haddad to speak on his behalf as well, it was all very democratic and proper. Our job has ended, we have made our decision," Hadid said.

The Ajloun candidates had charged that errors in counting or administrative errors such as a misspelling of names had resulted in their loss in the Nov. 8 elections.

Clean-up campaign for airport road on the way

By Etha Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — A retired Jordanian army officer and writer will lead a campaign Thursday to clean up the highway to the Queen Abla International Airport and beyond, a distance of 80 kilometres.

Amman Ramadan told the Jordan Times that the Ministry of Tourism, which will finance the campaign, will provide at least six small pick-up trucks and 12 workers for the job expected to last one whole day.

Actually the campaign is to cover the whole highway extending from Amman to the port city of Aqaba, but this is to be carried out in stages, Ramadan said.

Referring to the Dead Sea-Swemeh campaign, also carried out in the winter, he said that a lot of waste materials were collected since the area is visited by people in the winter leaving behind a lot of garbage and waste.

"In fact, the idea of cleaning up Jordan was the brainchild of Her Majesty Queen Noor who took part in a campaign to

clean the Jordan Valley's vacation spots," Ramadan said. "I was also commended by His Majesty King Hussein on my earlier campaigns to make Jordan clean," he added.

Ramadan said the waste is collected at a dumping ground along the way and parts of it is burnt while others are just kept and later buried.

Ramadan said he was encouraged to carry out the cleanliness campaigns on a voluntary basis when he approached government ministries asking for help and received favourable response.

He said that once when he was hunting in Jordan, he came upon garbage in huge quantities which marred the landscape and reflected a negative impression about the country. This prompted his later campaigns.

Ramadan has written several books published in Jordan including "The Jordanian Deserts" about the ancient castles there and Palestinian and Jordanian Heritage.

He said he is now writing a book entitled "Birds of Jordan", about 165 species of birds.



Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Deputy Sheikh Abdul Mun'im Abu Zant look over parliament papers. Abu Zant did not give the prime minister's government a vote of confidence in the 3-day confidence session last week.

Badran thanks public for their support

Artists, musicians brief prime minister

AMMAN (Petra) — An outline of the work and programme of the Jordanian artists and musicians federations was presented Tuesday to Prime Minister Mudar Badran at a meeting held in his office and attended by Minister of Culture Khaled Al Karaki and members of the two federations.

Nearly 70 per cent of children's television series in the Arab World is produced in Jordan. The country is also the location for many Arabic television series involving Arab and Jordanian artists and actors, the prime minister was told at the meeting.

Badran paid tribute to the two federations' efforts and said that the government will provide all forms of cooperation to enable them to achieve their goals.

Special attention, however, should be given to Jordanian culture and heritage which could be reflected in local artistic work and

conveyed to the outside world, the prime minister said.

Badran also Tuesday received delegations representing various public sector groups. They congratulated him on his new position.

Less visits

Later the prime minister issued a statement intended to curb visits by delegations to the Prime Ministry to offer congratulations. He said in the statement that he was grateful to the public for their overwhelming support but he said that the government must be given the chance to conduct its business, and the prime minister must have time to visit various institutions and departments to follow up on work and "fulfil the government's programme as contained in its policy statement to Parliament."

Farmers successfully cultivate sugar cane

DEIR ALLA (J.T.) — Two Jordanian farmers have successfully cultivated sugar cane on 20 dunums of land in the Deir Alla district of the Jordan Valley and sold their output in the local market, according to a report by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Diyab Al Rabi and George Sido planted the sugar cane in October of 1988 and have just harvested their product and sold it to local food processing industries. They collected JD 350 for each dunum of land, Petra said.

Diyab said in a statement following the success of the new agricultural project that he imported the saplings from Egypt and planted them in deeply ploughed fields which were fertilised and irrigated continually around the year.

"Planting sugar cane is simple compared to other plants, but the disadvantage is that sugar cane

requires great quantities of water to grow and yield a good profit, Diyab said.

Director of the Agricultural Department in the region Mazen Khasawneh said that the Jordan Valley soil was quite suitable for growing sugar cane, beetroot and rice, and his department was encouraging local farmers to diversify their crops.

He said the local market needs sugar cane, but the disadvantage is the plant requires a great deal of irrigation.

Khasawneh pointed out that beetroots are even better suited to the Jordan Valley than sugar cane since the plant requires less water and yields 17 per cent sugar compared to seven per cent from the sugar cane.

The Deir Alla region is one of the most heavily cultivated areas in Jordan

Embroidery: A proud heritage, financial support for the family

AMMAN (J.T.) — For hundreds of years Palestinian women have practiced the art of embroidery, stitching complex and intricate patterns which are unique to their villages and passed down from generation to generation. The women carried this heritage with them from their homes in Beit Dajan, Doura, Safriyeh, and other villages to new communities to the east of the Jordan River during the exodus of Palestinians into Jordan during the 1948 and 1967 wars. Two of these refugee communities, Mahatta and Natheef, are the locus of a Save the Children women's health and income generation project currently employing more than 300 women.

In the past women embroidered traditional patterns on panels of fabric for the yokes, sleeves, and skirts of their dresses, as well as on pillows for their homes. Capitalising on the panel methodology traditionally used, Save the Children designers reasoned that an embroidered panel might as well be worked into quilts, or tote bags to appeal to larger markets and sell at higher prices per the amount of handwork required. Today with grant assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in cooperation with the Noor Al Hussein Foundation and the Ministry of Social Development, Save the Children is helping the women of Mahatta and Natheef to develop profitable, market-oriented businesses that produce eight hand crafted products, deliver frozen appetisers to local supermarkets, and make pure olive oil soap.

The quilts, which may be ordered with matching pillows in a range of colours and designs, have been selling well at the Bridal Chest at Kan Zaman, where craft workshops and a traditional restaurant are housed under the vaulted arches of a restored rural village. Marketed under the Jordan River Designs logo, the Palestinian quilts coordinate with the Bani Hamida carpets woven by Bedouin women working with Save the Children's first home-based and also USAID-supported income generation project. With sales increasing and more women interested in work with the project, Save the Children recruited John Wrightson, an International Executive Service Corps (IESC) volunteer to consult on improving production techniques, assessing marketing strategies, and strengthening administrative procedures such as inventory control and cost accounting. Prior to his retirement, Wrightson founded and managed two multi-million dollar quilt making businesses in the north-eastern United States.

During two months' work with the project, Wrightson personally helped to build fab-

ric storage bins at the Natheef centre and has recommended that raw materials inventory be kept to around 25 per cent of projected annual production. His advice to reduce the amount of stuffing material in the quilts has been implemented with the result that the quilts are lighter — more comfortable in this climate, and easier to handle and to clean. Using less filling also reduces the cost of production.

For exporting to the United States, Wrightson suggested Jordan River Designs seek an arrangement with a U.S. firm whereby quilt tops are shipped and the filling and quilting done by the U.S. firm after arrival. This reduces the weight and space requirements for export and facilitates compliance with U.S. regulations for filling materials. Wrightson supervised the first production in Jordan of his design, the snugg sack, which is being widely advertised as a way to keep warm in chilly houses. Just one week after the product's introduction at the American Women's Bazaar, Save the Children received a large order from Safeway which will be marketing the snugg sack regionally. The snugg sack is also popular with quilting project employees who are entitled to purchase them at employee discount prices.

The project will try out a home-based marketing strategy. Wrightson proposed under which a hostess invites friends and family to her home for a 'party' that combines hospitality with sales. Guests see the merchandise displayed and may purchase or order items if they wish. The hostess earns a commission on the sales.

Samira Othman, who manages the quilt making activity, reports that in addition to doubling the income of some of the families, the project is making a contribution to community and family relationships. Women who had never worked for pay before are providing a major share of their family's income, and more women ask for work each week. The women take turns caring for each other's children and working on the quilt project, while other family members assist with household tasks. The embroidery work and the stitching of the quilt pieces is done, to order, by women in their homes. The women then bring the finished quilt top to the project centre where it can be spread flat on large tables and friends can assist one another with stuffing and quilting. In Mahatta the quilt makers have been asked to make a presentation about their work to local school children.

The quilt making project provides part time employment for 50 women in Natheef and for 16 women in Mahatta. In both communities it's easy to see the most important aspect of the project's success.

Teeming refugee camp threatened by major healthcare problems

By Sa'eda Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Thousands of families at Baqa'a camp still suffer from lack of basic health provisions. The economic and financial difficulties facing the country, coupled with increasing demand for health services in the teeming refugee camp outside Amman, pose a major problem for authorities to cope with a situation further aggravated by the rapid rise in the shantytown's population. The problem is slowly building, threatening thousands.

Approximately 8 o'clock on any typical day, the line at the medical health centre at Baqa'a camp starts to take shape until it swells to hundreds by 10 o'clock. Noises and children's cries overwhelm the narrow corridors leading to the doctors' rooms, causing a tumultuous uproar.

Outside, hundreds more sit on the rocks' edges waiting for their relatives; some others seize the chance of permanent overflow of patients at the overcrowded centre with its permanent overflow of patients and take the spot as a convenient market to sell the simple stuff they could afford.

The Baqa'a Centre was established by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian Refugees and is operated by five doctors, 18 nurses, and one dentist. This limited number of staff provides health services, including maternal and child care, for an average of 1,100 patients every day.

A sub-centre has also been set up by UNRWA in the southern area of the camp due to the perennial overflow of patients at the main centre, but it is obvious that the entire set up is too inadequate to meet the needs of the camp's residents.

The population of the camp is estimated at more than 110,000 of which 67,000 are registered as refugees with UNRWA, meaning that they are entitled to UNRWA medical services.

Despite extensive efforts exerted by UNRWA, the services available are far short of what is the minimum acceptable by any standards, particularly those related to child care and health facilities for pro-



Children watch as rain water and sewage run down the narrow street of the camp due to lack of a proper drainage system (File photo)

gnant women.

Mohammad Hassan Waheed, a camp resident who works as a teacher in the Jordan Valley, complains about the functioning and procedures of the present system.

"One Sunday, I took my child to the medical centre, but they refused to accept the case on the grounds that Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays are only for pregnant women. They said children would be attended to only on Saturdays, Mondays and Wednesdays."

"Consequently," he continued, "I took him to a private clinic... and you know how expensive private clinics are."

While the rotation system is clearly aimed at reducing the number of patients at the centre at any given day, Waheed's complaint is that his child was in "miserable condition" and needed emergency treatment, and as such the centre should have standby arrangements for such cases. But, it would appear that the centre, already strained under the burden of the financial and administrative load, is in no position to do so.

Unfortunately, there is no choice for Baqa'a patients who suffer from serious illness or for emergency cases but to go to a hospital at Salt, 38 kilometres from the camp — which is considered as the nearest since there is none at the camp for the time being. Baqa'a is about 20 kilometres north of Amman.

Hopes that the camp will

have its own hospital are in the horizon but initial enthusiasm seems to have waned. The Baqa'a camp zakat committee, sponsored by various private institutions and benevolent contributors, launched a fund-raising campaign for the proposed hospital, but the project is finding little progress because of insufficient financial support.

The project will cost at least JD 100,000," explains Dr. Nabeel Al Jabri at the Charity Medical Centre in Baqa'a camp. "The committee with its inadequate resources is incapable of covering all its expenses, and the completion of the project is dependent upon donors and contributors."

It is expected that another project, sponsored by UNRWA in cooperation with the Common Services Council at Baqa'a camp, to improve hygiene in the camp will soon materialise. The project involves supplying garbage containers around the camp. At present, there are no such provisions, and the refuse collection is carried out by UNRWA's sanitation workers, who lug trash in wheelbarrows from next to the houses and disposing it at open dumping sites; insects and worms carrying infectious diseases from outside to the inner parts of the camp is one of the natural outcomes.

Moving deeper into the camp's inner unpaved roads, one witnesses still another ma-

jor problem; that of the exposed canals of waste water and of the deficiency of drainage inside the camp.

Two years ago, the government extended water pipelines for all houses in the camp; however, more than 30 per cent of them could not afford to pay because of the relatively high JD 60 fees for each installation, according to Mohammad Nseir, a member in Baqa'a's services committee.

The government subsequently extended payment facility; each house could pay JD 10 per month for six months. But even then, the response was minimal, and hundreds of houses are still without water connection.

"UNRWA paid the expenses for 600 families (classified as) hardship cases," according to Mohammad Hassan Amairah, one of UNRWA's school directors. But still the problem continues for thousands of families.

Two women were sitting in one of the camps' narrow and narrow pathways. Asked whether their houses had water connection, one of them let out a big cry. "You are asking about paying for water connection? My condition is what you see..." she wailed, pointing to her vendor's box. It had some dried up biscuits, cheap chocolates and some odds and ends. Behind her was the door to her home; a home with almost nothing inside.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

SUDAN PROTOCOL APPROVED: The cabinet meeting Tuesday, under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mudar Badran, approved the trade protocol signed between Jordan and Sudan. The cabinet also approved the extension of the membership period of the representatives of the government and public institutions at the Jordanian Industrial Estates Corporation (Petra).

QASEM MEETS U.S. GROUP: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem Tuesday met with a group representing the World Affairs Council in the United States. Discussion focused on the Arab-Israeli conflict and other Middle East issues (Petra).

HOUSE MEETINGS: Lower House of Parliament Speaker Salehman Arrar has called members of House committees in charge of public freedoms, citizens rights, education, the occupied territories, the media and rural regions, and environmental health for a meeting Wednesday. They are to elect chairmen and rapporteurs for their respective committees (Petra).

JORDAN-ITALY TOURISM: Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kabarti met in his office Tuesday with Italian Ambassador to Jordan Francesco de Corten to discuss Jordanian-Italian cooperation in tourism and restoration of archaeological sites as well as organising visits to Jordan by Italian tourist groups (Petra).

JORDAN-SAUDI LABOUR TALKS: Minister of Labour Qassem Obaidat Tuesday met Saudi Arabian ambassador to Jordan Sheikh Mohammad Fahd Al Issa and discussed labour-related affairs of concern to Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Discussion focused on the condition of Jordanian workers now employed in Saudi Arabian businesses and organisations (Petra).

Correction

A press release issued by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation was mistakenly quoted by the Jordan Times. The newspaper article Tuesday stated that the Jerash Handicraft Centre was initiated by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation. In fact, the centre has been under the direction of the Jerash Ladies

Benevolent Society, headed by Inaya Khalil, since its establishment five years ago. Since that time also, Catholic Relief Services has been providing training, managerial and capital assistance. The Noor Al Hussein Foundation's marketing assistance began in October, 1988.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arab press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * An exhibition entitled "They chose 36 poets" at the French Cultural Centre.
- * An art exhibition by Irish artist Conal McIntyre at the British Council.
- * An exhibition of artificial flowers at the Yarmouk University.

PUBLIC MEETING

- * A public meeting in which parliament member Dr. Ahmad Oweidi Al Abshani will address the public on some of the problems that citizens face, at the International Arts Centre — 5:30 p.m.

OBITUARY

With deepest sympathy and great sorrow, I.A.L. staff in Jordan announces the death of their colleague:

James McLean Rae

on New Year's Eve, while on holiday in the United Kingdom.

May his soul rest in peace.

I.A.L. staff Amman - Jordan

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1975

الصحف الأردنية المستقلة المنشورة بالإنجليزية من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية
تأسست 1975

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Editor-in-Chief:
DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-4, 670411-4, 684311, 684366

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times Advertising Department.

Cracks in the Israeli hardliners

WITH Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat joining the burgeoning Israeli forces calling for direct talks with the PLO and Minister of Science and Technology, Ezer Weizman persisting in demanding negotiations with the PLO as the only sensible and practical thing to do, wide cracks are already occurring in wall of the Israeli opposition to recognising PLO as the only pragmatic interlocutor left to resolve the Palestinian case. And the fact that Shlomo Lahat is still a very important member of the ruling Likud Party and Ezer Weizman was once a formidable part of the Likud constituency makes their change of views and perspectives on the role of the PLO that much more meaningful and relevant. What Lahat and Weizman and all their silent yet growing supporters are saying is that it is in Israel's interest to negotiate with the party that can deliver the Palestinians and make lasting commitments on their behalf. What value is there in any peace agreement that Israel signs if it is not also signed and ratified by the Palestinian Party which has a mandate to do so, and has won the kind of international recognition and legitimacy to make its signature more than ink on paper. Come to think of it, one would have thought that the Israeli establishment would have insisted on the PLO signature as a sine qua non to accepting any peace treaty with the Arab side.

Meanwhile the Palestinian side must persist in upholding its sense of moderation and refrain from falling into the trap of extremism that some of their constituencies are demanding. The future lies in the hands of the mainstream of the PLO and judging by the increase in the Israeli forces calling for talks with it, there is a growing evidence that the PLO is beginning to harvest the fruits of their centrist stance on the national case of the Palestinian people. There is nothing more Shamir and his extremist supporters would like the mainstream PLO to do than to waver on its commitment to strike a reasonable accommodation with Israel based on legitimacy and justice for all. And there is no more effective way to pull the rug from under all those Israeli forces who are calling for compromise and recognition of the Palestinian nationalism than to betray all the investments already made in the cause of moderation and restraint on the Palestinian side.

The Israeli political establishment may not accept the PLO overnight as the principal interlocutor in the process of peace in the Middle East but it is almost a sure thing that in the near future such a dramatic transformation in the Israeli thinking would occur. The main point for the Palestinians now is to persist and persevere in their determination to wage a policy of moderation in spite of all the temptations to change course in the face of Shamir's stubbornness to meet them half way. The PLO owes it to Israeli leaders like the late Lahat and Weizman to stay on course without ever losing faith or confidence that they are now on the right track that would lead them to victory.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday said Jordan has succeeded to begin the process of settling its foreign debts to various governments and banks, thanks to the sacrifices of the Jordanian people and their determination to work diligently towards the fulfilment of the heavy commitments. For the past four decades Jordan has been steadfast in the face of Israel's aggression and in confrontation with the various challenges, while at the same time it has been pursuing the course of socio-economic development, the paper noted. It said the country has been helped in its endeavours at all fronts by the rich Arab states of the Gulf, and the Jordanian Armed Forces have been capable of repelling aggression and defending the Arab homeland. For this reason, the paper added, it is hoped that the Gulf Arab states will come to the aid of the Kingdom at a crucial moment as the Jordanians are struggling to maintain the defence of the homeland and to meet their obligation and commitments to other countries. As the representatives of the Jordanian people opening a debate in parliament over the 1990 fiscal budget, Jordanians are looking to their brothers in the Gulf state to rally to the support of the Kingdom and extend all possible assistance which can enable the Jordanian people and their armed forces to stand fast in the face of external dangers.

Al Dustour daily commented on an Arab League meeting in Tunis to assess the impact of the on-going changes in Eastern Europe on the Eastern Bloc's relations with the Arab World. The paper said that the deep changes in the Eastern Bloc are being exploited fully by Israel to serve its own interests, while the Arabs are losing their friends in Eastern Europe one by one. It is indeed a pity to see the Arab still lagging far behind Israel and the rest of the world in interacting with the events in Europe, and failing to take a unified stand that would ensure continued cooperation with Europe at all levels, the paper said. The paper said that the Arabs ought to meet, not at the delegates level, but rather at the summit level so that the Arab heads of state can take serious measures that would shape their countries' future relations with other nations. The paper expressed hope that the Tunis meeting will pave the way for a summit meeting in view of the seriousness of the situation in Europe and Israel's efforts to cultivate the events to serve its own interests.

Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily commented on a statement by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid in which he hailed the formation of the three Arab economic groupings — the Arab Cooperation Council, the Maghreb Union and the Gulf Cooperation Council — and called on the Arabs to extend support for the Palestinian uprising. The paper said that since 1948, the Arabs in general and the Palestinian in particular have been listening to such nice words, but without real action to support the Palestinian people under Israeli rule. The paper said that the Algerian president ought to have called for a summit meeting at which the Arab leaders can chart a plan for liberating the occupied territories and restoring the lands of the Palestinian people.

Bulgarian nationalists turn against opposition on Muslim issue

By Kate Dourian
Reuters

SOFIA — Bulgaria's crawl towards democracy has stumbled over the thorny issue of the rights of ethnic Turks which has turned some nationalists against opposition leaders trying to free the country from Communism.

Almost overnight, the mushrooming opposition movement found itself sliding in popularity for supporting a Communist Party decision to restore religious and cultural rights to the country's 1.5 million Muslims.

Since last Monday, thousands of Bulgarians full of nationalist fervour have taken to the streets of Sofia and other cities and towns demanding a referendum on the issue and calling for the government to resign for rejecting this proposal.

For now, the struggle for democracy in this mainly peasant nation of nine million appears forgotten as yesterday's heroes find themselves today's villains.

Constantin Trencher, leader of the unofficial trade union Podkrepa and tipped for possible leadership in a post-Communist Bulgaria, has been singled out for abuse by nationalists who have branded him a traitor for supporting the Turkish cause.

Yesterday I was crossing the square and they wanted to hang me because they took me for Mr. Trencher," said Peter Beron, an opposition leader who, like Trencher, sports a beard.

He was referring to Sofia's parliament square, which over the past week has become the focal point for the anti-Turkish movement and where Podkrepa

supporters and protesters against Turkish rights came to blows during rival rallies last Thursday.

Only last month, the square was a scene of jubilation for ethnic Turks who wept for joy when told they could have their Muslim names back and practise their religion freely after years of repression under a policy of forced assimilation devised and implemented by ousted headline leader Todor Zhivkov.

The country's 200,000 Bulgarian Muslims, or Pomaks, were victims of a similar policy in the 1970s.

But organisers of the anti-Turkish protests, which began in the town of Kurdzhali in the predominantly Turkish populated south east and spread across the country, say they are not opposed to ethnic Turks regaining their rights but reject the way the decision was imposed on the people by the party.

"We are against the decision because it was done in the old way, by diktat, from the Central Committee. We are asking for such issues to be decided in a democratic way," said Stoiko Stoyanov, a member of a Kurdzhali committee that has led the calls for a referendum.

Ironically it is the unprecedented freedom allowed under the reformist Communist leadership of Peter Mladenov which has let people express their grievances undeterred by police.

Some members of Podkrepa, which last week said it had doubled its membership to 100,000 since the Nov. 10 sacking of Zhivkov, have said they are breaking away from the group because they opposed its pro-Turkish stand.

In an interview with Reuters, Beron conceded the opposition was losing support in the provinces where nationalist sentiment was rife and blamed anti-reformists in the Communist Party who he said were trying to disrupt the democratic process.

"This is a double blow against the opposition and against the reformists within the party," Beron, member of the environmental opposition group Eco-Glasnost, said. "I guess part of the grassroots support is lost but we shall not give in to opportunists and we shall regain our support in time."

The nationalist unrest has sidetracked the already slow pace of reform that has left Bulgaria languishing behind Warsaw Pact allies further down the road to democracy.

Beron, a biologist, said he believed strikes and protests over the rights issue have the blessing of local Communist leaders unwilling to accept a diminished role since Dec. 15 when the party voted to relinquish its automatic right to power and called for free multi-party elections this year.

Andrey Lukazov, one of the young reformists promoted to full membership of the party's ruling politburo after a purge which followed Zhivkov's removal, hinted at some opposition from within, against the ethnic policy.

"We will have to appeal to everybody" to stop picketing around and making cheap politics out of a situation which should be treated by everybody with special



care," he told Reuters last week on his return from a visit to Kurdzhali.

Beron said the anti-reformists had dealt a blow to talks begun last week between the Communist Party and the Union of Demo-

cratic Forces, an umbrella coalition grouping 11 independent organisations including Podkrepa and Eco-Glasnost, to prepare eventual negotiations towards ending one-party rule.

But he added, "I don't think

they can stop the democratic process now. We shall go ahead with the round table and with our demands for democratic changes while insisting that the Muslim population has the same rights as the Bulgarians."

E. German Communists still strong and getting stronger

By Andrew Gumbel
Reuters

EAST BERLIN — East Germany's Communist Party is far from beaten and even seems to be strengthening its grip on power after being brought to its knees in last year's popular uprising, say politicians on both sides of the Berlin Wall.

The party still dominates the government, runs the economy and controls most of the media, prompting fears that it could scrap its pledges for democratic change at any time.

"1989 was the year of peaceful revolution in East Germany, but no-one should delude themselves that the struggle for freedom has already been won. It has only just begun," said Oskar Lafontaine, deputy West German Social Democrat leader.

Leading opposition activist Rolf Henrich has even suggested the Communists might use force to reassert their full authority, turning free elections planned for May into a farce.

But for a party that three months ago penned the people behind barbed wire and concrete and kept watch on them with a web of secret police, the Communists are remarkably popular.

According to opinion polls commissioned on both sides of the Berlin Wall, they command between a quarter and a third of the vote, well ahead of any other political force.

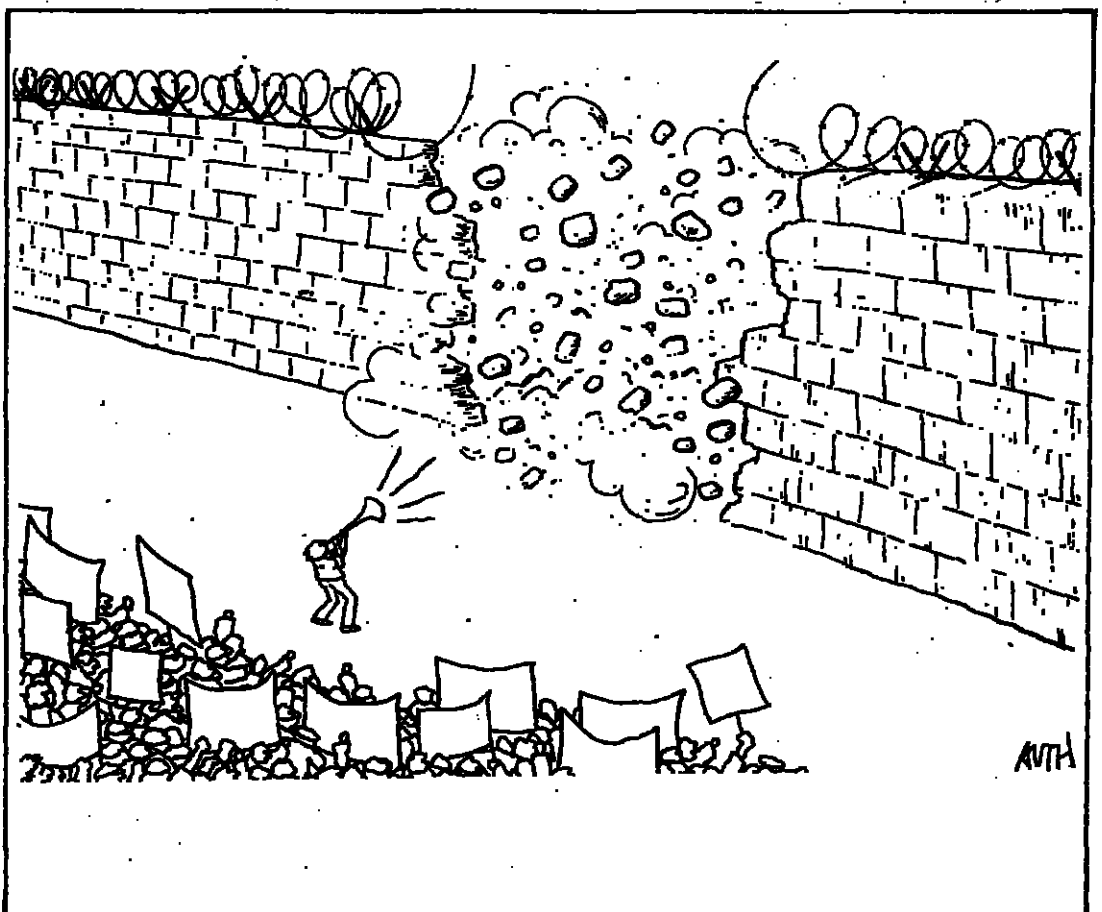
"I believe the polls," said Konrad Weiss, leader of the opposition party Democracy Now. "But much of it has to do with the fact that democratic parties are given no basic facilities to fight the Communists' well-oiled political machine."

Responding to pressure from the highly fragmented opposition and from West German leaders,

the Communists have promised to provide office space in central East Berlin for a six-party democratic alliance formed last week.

"We'll have to see if they keep their word," Weiss said. "But the fact remains the party is too powerful. It still runs the media and state companies. That's how it was in the past and that's how it is now."

In many respects the party, like the country, has changed beyond recognition since its Stalinist leader Erich Honecker fell last October.



"1989 was the year of peaceful revolution in East Germany, but no-one should delude themselves that the struggle for freedom has already been won. It has only just begun," says Oskar Lafontaine, deputy West German Social Democrat leader.

It has breached the Berlin Wall, allowed other parties to share power, agreed to free elections, dismantled the hated Stasi secret police, denounced the old

Stalinist leaders and put many of them behind bars.

Its membership has fallen from 2.2 million to 1.4 million and it has dismissed large numbers of

workers to save money. But politicians say the Communists are still enormously strong and that many of the reforms are not as wide-reaching as they seem.

The East German media delights in revealing the latest detail of corruption or misdeed in the old order but criticism of the new party leaders can scarcely be found.

"For a few weeks the papers were more open, but now they are back to painting Communist propaganda again," one East German journalist said.

The main topic in the news is not the country's creaking economy, nor its precarious politics, but an alleged rise in neo-Fascism that the government calls a major security threat.

Many opposition groups see the massive media attention given to a few hastily investigated incidents as a Communist Party ploy to spread fear of change, and as an excuse to revive the Stasi secret police which propped up the Honecker regime.

Henrich and his group New Forum are suspicious of government assurances that the old secret police has no access to weapons. They fear the Communists might set up a similar

security force to intimidate voters in the May 6 elections.

Weiss of Democracy Now is worried not only by a resurgence of the Stasi but also by old hardliners who he said still hold several posts high in government, the media and industry.

"I don't think the new leaders such as (party chief Gregor) Gysi are responsible for the neo-Nazi scare tactics. It is the old apparatus which still controls the middle ranks," he said.

Weiss and others believe it is vital to push the Communists into opposition in the elections if East Germany is to become a democracy.

"I think the party can really change and that it is in the interests of the country for it to do so. But this is only possible if it is no longer in government," Weiss said.

East German author Lutz Rathenow said any economic rapprochement between West Germany and a Communist-led East Germany would make corruption endemic to the political system.

"We would become the Sicily of a united Germany. And the party would play the role of the mafia, controlling all income and outgoings and taking a cut for itself."

OPEN FORUM

I have a dream

THE unforgettable speech of Martin Luther King in 1964 is still echoing in many parts of the world, reminding and urging the world leaders to listen to millions of voices asking for freedom and human rights.

Approaching the 21st century, many who have been yearning for democracy and liberation for a long time would like to pay tribute to the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, as the world has witnessed the remarkable role played by this international figure, and the courageous steps he took towards reform. He is the force behind the most momentous events of the 1980s; the termination of the cold war, the withdrawal from Afghanistan, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the transformation of governments in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Romania.

As the long suffering East Europe is going to lead a new and better life in the 1990s, there are high hopes that other countries with similar problems as East Europe's, will follow the same steps towards "glasnost" and "perestroika".

Having ended the cold war between the two superpowers and setting up negotiations, regional conflicts will hopefully be solved in the 1990s.

As far as the Middle East is concerned, the most important achievement some months ago, was the cease-fire of the eight-year old Gulf war. But what is still hanging in the air and persisting is the longest conflict — the Palestinian question.

Entering the third year of the uprising, the Palestinians are determined to go on fighting the occupation and drawing the world's attention to their plight, hoping that the international community will eventually put an end to their suffering. Despite the heavy losses, they insist that there will be no turning back to the pre-1967 period.

"The occupation has got some advantages for us," a young Palestinian said. "It has taught us how much freedom, human dignity and democracy are valuable to all nations. There will be no turning back."

As an Arab, I would like to see the end of the Lebanese civil war, and the long-awaited Arab unity and democracy in action in the coming decade.

And as a Palestinian, I have Martin Luther King's dream. It is the dream of seeing the ending and humiliating occupation ending, and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state. I would like to hear the Palestinian children singing the song Martin Luther King sang in the end of his famous speech, "We are free. We are free. at last."

By Sana Abu Hawaj

11 years on, Cambodian situation still at stalemate

By Chris Peterson
Reuters

BANGKOK — Eleven years after Vietnamese troops invaded Cambodia, overtook Pol Pot's feared Khmer Rouge regime and installed a new government under Heng Samrin, the country still endures civil war with little hope of solution.

Vietnam's troops have pulled out, leaving the Phnom Penh government's army, estimated at 60,000 regulars and 100,000 militiamen, to fight the Khmer Rouge and its uneasy non-Communist allies.

Heng Samrin's government was installed on Jan. 7, 1979, and he is now the country's president.

The dry season, which started in early December and lasts until the end of May, saw an expected offensive by the rebels pushing out from their heavily defended bases along the Thai border.

The grain-mining area around Pailin, a nearly deserted township, fell to the Khmer Rouge, while their allies, factions headed by former head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk and veteran Cambodian politician

Son Sann, have grabbed territory further north.

But despite their efforts, the rebels have so far failed to take control of a major population centre, although the provincial capitals of Battambang and Sisophon are threatened.

"Most of the fighting is small-scale, local confrontations," a Western diplomat said. "It's pretty much on the level of AK-47s, rocket grenades and mortars."

"The government's aim seems to be to concentrate on pulling back to hold the main towns. The Khmer Rouge seem pretty free to roam around the area around Pailin, although it's very underpopulated out there."

He said neither side seemed able to make a decisive move and said a long-term military stalemate was expected.

"The Khmer Rouge are strong — some 30,000 of them — but unlike the period just before 1975, they don't have the backing that they had then of north Vietnamese army," he said. "They have no transport, no artillery to speak of. Likewise the government is on its own now with the

Vietnamese withdrawal."

Sukhumbhand Paribatra, a former adviser to Thai Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan, said that he thought the rebels might capture some towns from government forces in the coming months and predicted small-scale fighting further inside the country.

But he added: "I expect continued military stalemate inside Cambodia."

The diplomatic situation also remains deadlocked.

End of year messages from guerrilla leaders, monitored in Bangkok, made it clear that they continue to reject Prime Minister Hun Sen's Dec. 9 plan for a United Nations-enforced "peace settlement, which would effectively stop the Khmer Rouge in its tracks and leave the present administration in place pending elections.

The Khmer Rouge, who diplomats say were responsible for more than a million deaths during their four years in power, insist that the Phnom Penh government step down and share power with all factions, an arrangement it says should be monitored by the

United Nations until free and democratic elections are held.

Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge vice president, who makes most of its public pronouncements, stressed that the organisation and its allies had not changed their demands.

"The world is requested to consider this. No party will be allowed to violate any other party and Cambodia will in no way be a threat to other countries," he said in his New Year Message broadcast by Khmer Rouge radio and monitored here.

Son Sann, in his message, repeated his stand that the Vietnamese troop withdrawal was a farce and urged acceptance of the power-sharing plan as well as the immediate reconvening of the Paris peace talks on Cambodia.

Diplomats said Britain's public acceptance of the Vietnamese troop withdrawal and recent Australian diplomatic efforts to seek a United Nations "Namibia-style" solution, although key moves, had not altered the basic intransigence of both sides.

"I sometimes wonder if this isn't where we all were before," a Western diplomat said.

Andy Warhol retrospective in Cologne

'All is pretty'

By Greta Zimmermann-Thiel
IN-Press

ONE OF THE MOST important and extensive collections on the history of Pop art is to be currently found at the Ludwig Museum, Cologne. Following the successful debut by American artists at the Biennale in Venice in 1968, Peter Ludwig, an art collector from Aachen, realised the significance of this style and purposefully collected works of this genre from then onwards. Besides works by Robert Rauschenberg, Roy Lichtenstein and Claes Oldenburg, the Cologne-based Ludwig Museum also possesses 39 works from all stages in the artistic development of the undisputed "King of Pop Art," Andy Warhol. The Cologne museum was therefore the logical venue to stage the first major retrospective of Andy Warhol's works — two years after the artist's unexpected death. It was assembled by the New York Museum of Modern Art and is being shown in Cologne only — before moving on to Venice and Paris. It is to be held nowhere else in the Federal Republic of Germany. The exhibition enjoys the status of a homage. Apart from the rooms designated for touring exhibitions, the whole of the lower floor at the Cologne museum

was cleared specially for Warhol. No other contemporary artist has experienced so comparable an honour.

The exhibition starts off with an overview of the artist's early works which are relatively seldom seen. Born as the son of an immigrant Slovak family in 1928, Andrew Warhol had already become one of New York's most successful, young, commercial artists by the 1950s. The development of the connection between art and commerce dates from this time — something which Warhol practised in a masterly fashion as a matter of course at a later date. With his series of 32 Campbell soup cans, he became famous overnight. With the aid of a slide projector, the artist simply painted over the firm's whole range. In the art context of America, this reproduction in painting of commonplace consumer goods almost had the effect of a parody of the then prevailing abstract Expressionist movement. Warhol made a radical break with artistic subjectivity and sensitive inner feeling — such as in the case of Jackson Pollock. Soon afterwards Warhol abandoned the remains of painting technique and switched to the purely technical reproduction of existing photos with the aid of a silk-screen process. It was through him that this technique

became a recognised form of artistic production. It is one of the oddities of Warhol's art that his works, which are devoid of all forms of the "autographical" and lack of any suggestion of a personal style, can be automatically attributed to him as "typically Warhol." He made the absence of all things personal his hallmark; his works do not need an autograph.

Andy Warhol's success stems from his skill in radical simplification. He does not create art worlds of his own: he quotes the commonplace myths of his time and his country. During the turbulent years of the Vietnam war, the civil rights movement and world-wide student unrest, his artistic style, which affirms the "American Way of Life" unconditionally, met with great success. He not only rejects the separation of art and mass culture; he turns the consumer dream of the masses into images. His list of works reads like a catalogue of the American Dream. His provocative, uncritical message runs: "All is pretty."

The Cologne exhibition is literally brimming with duplicated and coloured-in consumer goods: dollar bills and portraits of film stars. As if people were also consumer products, Andy Warhol monumentalised the stars of his age — Marilyn Monroe,

Elvis Presley, Jacqueline Kennedy — in serialised rows at a time — like dream pictures — which they really were for the general public. Like no other, Warhol was drawn as if by magic to glamour and success. His series of Mao portraits — for which a whole room has been set aside in Cologne — is the clearest proof of the great value he attached to the category of notoriety. Mao becomes a star, transcending all political significance; Marilyn Monroe becomes the icon of female attractiveness, transcending all personal tragedy.

One distracting feature of the Cologne exhibition is the great amount of space devoted to "disaster pictures." As an impassive observer, Warhol reproduced mass-media photos of traffic accidents, airplane crashes and suicides. He did not even shrink from the artistic portrayal of the electric chair as a symbol of his country. His objective eye is honest enough to show the nightmarish aspects of the darker side of the American dream. For reasons of space, the retrospective, taken over from New York, had to be reduced by some 50 works. As a special supplement to this stage of its tour in Cologne, the exhibition is rounded off with several German motifs. As one of the most sought-after artists of the present age, Warhol constantly

accepted commissions. On display are his "cars" for Mercedes variations on the themes of Cologne Cathedral and Ludwig van Beethoven and — fascinated by super kitsch — a grisly-coloured version of Neuschwanstein Castle. All in all, the parade of German symbols.

Andy Warhol succeeded in living his very own American dream of social advancement. He not only painted stars; he also worked carefully on the myth of his own stardom. The success enjoyed by Warhol's art is undoubtedly rooted in the redefinition of the relationship between artist and public. He made a radical break with the concept of elitist art. His art made no attempt to resist superficiality; on the contrary, it sought it as a means to success. His pictures are what they are: they demand neither understanding nor pondering on the purpose of this art. The portrayals of consummate banalities are important as documents of the times. Oriented towards the visual habits of contemporaries, these cult images provide the affirmation which has still not been achieved by any form of avant-garde art movement; uncomplicated and direct access to the public. "I love America, and these pictures represent some of my comments on it."

The major retrospective of Andy Warhol's work will be on show at the Ludwig Museum, Cologne, until Feb. 11, 1990. (Photo: INF/Alfred Koch)

Philippine artists dig for cultural roots

By Jon Miller

BAGUIO CITY, THE PHILIPPINES — On the island of Luzon, some miles north of Manila, lies the highland city of Baguio. Built as a summer retreat by American administrators at the beginning of the century, Baguio is best known for its cool climate, its pine forests and its delicious fruits and vegetables. It could just as well be known as a showcase for the Philippines' perplexing hybrid heritage.

Peopled by Ilocanos and Pangasinans from the north, Pampangans from the central plain, Tagalogs and Visayans from the south, Chinese traders, native Igorot tribespeople and exotic combinations of all of the above, Baguio is a living example of just how difficult it is to put a finger on "Filipino culture."

A group of relative newcomers is trying to come to terms with such a tangled culture, seeking in the process to separate what is good from what is not so good in a country that suffers from a centuries-old — and often crippling — identity crisis. By using native materials and looking to the non-Western rituals and objects of their tribal neighbours, Baguio artists aim to define what they hope will become a uniquely Filipino art.

As a result, this city, with a student-dominated population of about 200,000, is fast becoming one of the centres of creative arts in southeast Asia.

"Beginning in the 1950s, Filipino artists looked to New York for their inspiration," says Santiago Bose, a Baguio-based artist who spent several years in the United States. "Even in the 1960s, when nationalism was in vogue here, our art was still derivative. We still thought the centre of the art world was in New York."

Bose is now working in various media, from native textiles to high-technology building materials, as he tries to respond to the physical, economic and political realities of being an artist in an impoverished Third World country.

A number of others — sculptors, painters, performing artists, filmmakers and musicians — have come to Baguio to explore the same sort of issues. Several have been successful artists in Manila or in foreign countries. There are many obvious attractions here, not the least of which is the climate. The artistic community is still relatively small and is less concerned with earning a reputation and commercial success than its counterpart in the capital.

But while Baguio is undeniably a pleasant place to live and work, most of the artists who come here are asking serious questions. What is Filipino art? How can an avant-garde artist be of use in a developing country? Is it possible to learn from Western culture without being dominated by it? David Baradas, an American-trained anthropologist and president of the Baguio Arts Guild, says that Baguio artists, with their interest in the traditions of the fiercely independent Igorots native to the surrounding Cordillera mountains, are at the cutting edge of a nationwide search for sources of pride and inspiration.

"A country that is very insecure about its cultural identity — which the Philippines is — has nowhere to look for inspiration except in its remaining ethnic

cultures," he says. "They represent for us, in terms of national heritage, the only version of our culture that is untainted by Western influence."

It's ironic, Baradas adds, that many of the tribal artists themselves are embarrassed by their work. "It so happens that the indigenous art of the Cordilleras is of a very high quality," he says. "Some of the native sculptures are being fought over by major museums around the world. But many of the people who create them don't know that. The Christianisation process has built an outlook that makes them put these things down. So they are, trying to hide their art, or throw it away, or reject it."

It's part of a problem that can be traced to the coming of the Spaniards in the 16th century, according to Baradas. Although the Philippines is inescapably Asian (its nearest neighbours are Taiwan and Indonesia), by the 1800s most Filipino art was almost indistinguishable from that of Mexico or Cuba. With the entrance of the Americans at the end of the 19th century, artistic expression strayed even farther from its pre-Christian roots.

"Today, if you refuse to acknowledge that portion of the country's heritage that has been preserved, then you are really left with no identity," Baradas says. "Your only choice is this undefined, amorphous tradition that is vaguely international in character. It's an adaptive, at times imitative version of Western culture. Unfortunately, it's the culture of the modern urban Filipino."

Political and aesthetic dissatisfaction with this sort of quasi-Western orientation has led many Baguio artists to look more closely at the world around them. Some of their most interesting work incorporates the landscape

itself, and much of it involves large numbers of people. Performing artists and street theatre are very popular. The crumbling facade of a ruined building on Baguio's main street has been transformed into a stage for often-bizarre artistic "happenings."

This sort of public art meshes well with Filipino traditions, says Santiago Bose. "Filipinos are not as individualistic as, say, the Americans. You'll notice that most of the artwork we have here involves communality, which is essential to maintaining small clans."

"A country that is very insecure about its cultural identity — which the Philippines is — has nowhere to look for inspiration except in its remaining ethnic cultures. They represent for us, in terms of national heritage, the only version of our culture that is untainted by Western influence."

Communitarianism often expresses itself in an emphasis on the artistic process rather than on the product. "In most cases," says Bose, discussing his own work, "the object is secondary. It's the participation and the reaction of the audience that's important."

That approach can lead to some fascinating collaborations. In 1982 Kidlat Tahimik, an internationally known experimental filmmaker who lives in Baguio, made a short film called "Yoyo." In it, an ingenious Filipino fashions a space ship from junk that he finds in his yard and blasts off for the moon. When he arrives, he finds that he can't communicate with the people back on earth.

Bose thought about the astro-

naut's problem, feeling that the film needed a resolution. But what could be done to bridge the communication gap? Building a Philippine "Mission Control Centre" was out of the question. But then he thought about a major Baguio landmark, two huge military communications towers that sit like twin ears on top of a nearby mountain.

In a gesture full of ironic humor, Bose got some friends together and built a matching pair of communications towers on another mountaintop — towers especially designed to receive messages from the stranded

transplanted urbanite now living in Baguio. He recently created a sensation in Manila by building a half-kilometre bamboo labyrinth on the grounds of the Cultural Centre of the Philippines. The design, he says, was based on patterns that Cordillera farmers use in planting their crops.

Another of Villanueva's recent pieces reflects the community theme. On All Saints Day, a Catholic holiday dedicated to remembering the dead, he gathered a large group of friends at downtown Baguio's manmade Burnham Lake. The group built and launched a pair of rafts bearing food and money as an offering to departed souls. Candles were placed in floating coconut shells, lighting the water, and a local musician played a bamboo flute.

It was an invented ritual, combining elements from tribal celebrations in the southern Philippines with mainstream Christian traditions. Villanueva says that the piece itself — titled "Atang Ti Karana" — was ultimately less important than the communal energy that created it. In this sort of art, even poverty can be a creative asset. At the first Baguio Festival of the Arts, staged in November by the Baguio Arts Guild and the Arts Foundation of the Cordilleras, Villanueva was gratified to find the perfect setting for the rafts-and-candles piece: a flooded gallery basement.

Recorded flute music echoed in the dark chamber, and people came in ones and twos to sit on concrete steps and watch the floating candles. It was a fitting and good-humored use of available materials and an effective statement about making art in a place where infrastructure is weak, materials are scarce and creativity itself is a precious resource.

Roberto Villanueva, 42, is a World News Link



Artwork displayed by an association of artists in Baguio, a Philippine city witnessing an unusual search for identity through the arts.

For all your:

Packing,
Air Freight Forwarding,
Customs Clearance,
Door-to-door Service,
Ticketing and
Reservation needs,
please call:

AMIN KAWAR & SONS

Abdel Hamid Sharaf Street
Shmeisani
P.O. Box 7806
Amman, Jordan
Tel. 604676, 604696

RESTAURANT CHINA
The first & best
Chinese Restaurant
in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near
Ahliah Girls School
Take away is available
Open daily 12:00-3:30
p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel. 638666

CROWN INT'L EST.
packing, shipping,
forwarding, storing,
clearing, door-to-door
service
Agents all over the world
Tel: 844088, Fax: 888882
Tlx: 22285 HEBMCO JO
P.O. Box 82847
AMMAN JORDAN

慕堂餐廳
MANDARIN
Chinese Restaurant
The only typical Chinese
cuisine in Amman.
Chinese Flaming pot is available
Take away available
Open daily 12:00 - 15:30
18:00 - 23:30
Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic
Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 681922

THE NAME YOU TRUST
TOP QUALITY
HOUSEHOLD
APPLIANCES
Electrolux
SHMAISANI AMMAN
TEL 604671

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT
Mecca Street, Yarmouk
Engineers' Housing
Estate, near Kilo
Supermarket
Mongolian Barbecue for
Lunch Friday only
Tel: 618214
Come and taste our
specialties
Open daily 12:00 - 3:30
p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

STUDIO HAIG
Professional Quality in
1 Hour Service
Develop your colour film at
our shop and get:-
* JUMBO photo
size 30% larger
* Free enlarge-
ment 20 x 30 cm
Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays
Bank. Phone: 604042
Swedish tel: 823891

MEXICAN FOOD
Between
1st & 2nd
Circle
Jabal Amman
Tel: 654205
Open for
LUNCH & DINNER

Slide film Processing by
Konica
Same Day Service
for all 35 film at
Salbashian
Trading Co.
Wadi Saqra str.
Next to Petra Bank
Headquarters
Tel: 633418

Kashmir Restaurant
FIRST CLASS INDIAN
RESTAURANT
Special Executive Lunches
Take away service
available
Open Daily 12:30 - 3:30 pm
7:30 - 11:30 pm
After the Philadelphia Hotel
Towards 3rd circle
Tel: 659519 659520

Saudi Real Estate
#1
Real Estate
Agency
In Town
Rental Dept.
Call Soha 687821/22

For the best
for your
MONEY...
ADVERTISE
in the

Jordan Times'

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

'Import ban encourages smuggling, black market'

Government shifts tactics to reduce consumer consumption

By Suhair Obaidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In line with Jordan's market-oriented economy and the new 1990 fiscal budget recently presented to the Lower House of Parliament, which aims at raising more domestic revenues, imported products banned a year ago are now allowed but with a very high tariff to discourage private and public consumption.

The ban on imported goods imposed by the then government of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai was lifted Jan. 1, 1990 as pledged when the ban was imposed.

"I believe that lifting the ban is a wise decision which best fits the Jordanian economic policy built on freedom and encouragement of the private sector and the freedom of trade," Minister of Trade and Industry Ziad Fariz told the Jordan Times in an interview.

According to the minister, lifting the ban has been replaced by increases in customs duties with percentage varying from five to 20 per cent.

"The solution is to import goods, with high customs fees, so the resulting high prices of products decrease their demand, thus decreasing consumption," he said. Decreasing public and private con-

sumption is one of the main features of the proposed 1990 fiscal budget.

For example, brick blocks which were banned but now can be imported but with an increase in the customs duty of up to 40 per cent.

Duties on statues and artifacts have increased 15 to 60 per cent. Customs on cars which were already extremely high before the ban ranging from 100 to 110 per cent will increase another 20 per cent.

On the other hand, fees were reduced on some raw materials which are necessary for production.

"Banning products from entering the country does not solve the economic problems, it might even encourage smuggling, leading to more serious and chronic problems," Fariz explained.

Taking the years 1987 and 1988 as a measurement scale, during the ban, the government lost about JD 45 million from customs duties on imports. The value of the imported goods amount to JD 46 million because the customs duties are 100 per cent.

"It is true that the ban reduced the commitments involving foreign currencies, and other financial policies like customs duties and income taxes resulted in lower consumption," he said. "But although some of these policies

may prove effective on the short run, on a long term basis, they might have negative implications and side effects, like smuggling and the increase of transactions of foreign currencies in the black market," he maintained.

Others also believe that the ban was only a short term solution. Jawad Al Anani, an analyst, agrees that the ban was effective in reducing the import bill, but on the long run, it would have led to imperfections in the market, such as black markets and smuggling.

"The best policy is not a total ban, but to use the price mechanism, i.e. higher tariff charges (a higher tariff wall), and which is more effective than a total ban," he said.

On the other hand, lifting of the ban may lead to a temporary increase in imports, because merchants did not import at all last year. But Anani does not think that the total import would be as high as some people expect, due to very high prices, because "importers would not want to stock their shelves with unsold commodities," he explained.

The proposed policies, as seen by Fariz, are most effective when implemented in light of financial stability, which can be achieved, according to the minister, through increasing exports of national industries

and finding new markets.

"We do have some industries that provide the country with stable annual revenue of \$600 million, which could increase with the rise of production and improved marketing," Fariz said.

These industries, which had a much better performance during 1988, according to Fariz, include the cement, phosphate, and potash, in addition to pharmaceuticals and chemicals.

The government's policy is directed towards encouraging and supporting the private sector to perform productive and export-oriented projects, since they also provide working opportunities, thus reducing unemployment," he said.

However, economists commenting on the 1990 austerity budget, pointed out that although the plan cuts public and private consumption and also limits job opportunities and reduces the total economic activity.

The proposed budget holds out any chances of further employment, regardless of the increased focus of attention on improving both the quality and quantity of local products, because money is intended to be channelled in the economy towards new investments, said an economist.

He added that higher taxes



Ziad Fariz

are a discouragement for anyone wanting to invest in the country.

The import ban included all types of cars and transportation vehicles, televisions and videos, air conditioners, microwave ovens, refrigerators and freezers, artificial fruits and flowers, tiles, statues and chandeliers.

Although the ban has been lifted, there are still some items which are not allowed for import. These include mineral water, table salt, fresh milk and tomato paste. Some farm products are also prohibited based on the agricultural season.

Meanwhile, white cheese and labaneh have been imported in very small quantities for the manufacturers of confectionaries and sweets.

Foreign cigarettes will continue to be imported by the Ministry of Supply, which has always been the sole legal importer in the country.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Liwa wins hotel contract in Morocco

MARRAKESH (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) company Liwa has signed an accord with the Euro-Japanese company Intercontinental for the management of five hotels in Morocco. Officials said two billion dirhams (\$247 million) would be spent on renovating and enlarging hotels in Marrakech, Fez, Agadir and Rabat and construction of a fifth in Casablanca. Dr. Mania Al Oteiba, UAE minister of petroleum and mineral resources who is also president of Liwa, said the deal was finalised in Marrakech after seven months of negotiations with Intercontinental. Oteiba said Liwa, created in May 1989, also planned to invest in Moroccan fisheries, agriculture and air transport. The hotels will be in the five-star category and Oteiba said they would attract a new category of tourists to Morocco.

S Arabia seeks 'gold explorers'

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia, with the world's largest proven oil reserves, has decided to step up its search for gold. The cabinet decided at its weekly meeting to invite international firms for negotiations on exploration, mining and production of gold. The Saudi Press Agency reported. The agency, monitored in Cyprus, quoted a cabinet statement as saying companies chosen for the mining projects would bear all costs. It said the kingdom's share of the profits would come either through taxes or profit-sharing schemes. A gold mine at Mahad Adh-Dhabab was inaugurated in 1983. In 1986, large quantities of gold were also discovered in the Sukhayrat area. Saudi Arabia also produces substantial quantities of limestone, gypsum, marble, clay and salt. Iron ore, copper, lead, zinc, silver and uranium are known to exist.

Iraq opens IPSA-2

NICOSIA (R) — The Saudi and Iraqi oil ministers Tuesday formally opened a pipeline that will add some 1.1 million barrels per day (b/d) to Iraq's oil export capacity, the state-run Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. The Iraqi pipeline through Saudi Arabia (IPSA-2) was inaugurated by Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Al Nazer and his Iraqi counterpart Issam Al Chalabi at a ceremony in the Red Sea port of Yanbu. Chalabi said the \$2 billion pipeline was strategically important for Iraq, which started the project two years ago at the height of its eight-year war with Iran. The new pipeline will take Iraq's export capacity to at least 4.1 million b/d compared with its OPEC-assigned quota of 3.14 million b/d. Oil industry sources said the 142-centimetre, 960-kilometre pipeline has an initial capacity of around one million b/d rising to around 1.65 million b/d by the end of January after completion of pumping facilities.

Europe air traffic increases

BRUSSELS (AP) — Traffic on European airlines last summer grew by 6.5 per cent compared to the summer of 1988, but a quarter of all flights suffered delays of over 15 minutes, the Association of European Airlines (AEA) has said in a statement. The 21-member AEA said traffic growth in the summer, measured from April to October, reflected an increase in capacity on many flights. In October, total passenger traffic rose by 5.1 per cent from October 1988. Freight traffic grew by 8.7 per cent in the summer. All-cargo services jumped 27 per cent during the period, compared with a rise of less than three per cent for freight on passenger aircraft. The AEA said that 25 per cent of all European flights were delayed for more than 15 minutes during the summer, compared with 21 per cent in the summer of 1988 and 15 per cent in 1987.

Greece eases currency controls

ATHENS (R) — Greek tourists, whose travels are limited by tough foreign exchange controls, may now take the equivalent of 1,000 European Currency Units (ECU) (\$1,200) when holidaying in other European Community (EC) countries. This is an increase from 840 ECUs (\$1,000) and effective immediately, Bank of Greece officials said Tuesday. The decision to raise tourists' foreign currency allotment came after pressure from the EC to bring Greek regulations closer into line with those of its EC partners, official bank sources said. The 1,000 ECUs applies to each person travelling to the EC for a vacation, regardless of the number of days away. Greeks may charge the equivalent of only \$300 a year overseas on their credit cards. The measures also raised the amount which Greek tourists may take to countries outside the EC to \$700 from \$600, the officials said. Greeks travelling overseas on business may take as much as \$2,000, regardless of the number of days away. This sum remained unchanged.

Hungary plans to privatise Malev

BUDAPEST (AP) — Hungary's reform-minded government plans to privatise the Malev state airline, the deputy transport minister said Tuesday. In an interview with the Magyar Hirlap daily, Sandor Kalnoki Kiss said the government had already received many offers for Malev but planned to hire a professional company to handle the sell-off. "We have not agreed with anyone but we give everyone a hearing and urge them to take part in the competition," Kalnoki Kiss said. He said that while it would be difficult for the government to retain a controlling stake in the airline, his ministry would seek a guarantee to have a say in future company decisions, the Hungarian MTI news agency reported. Kalnoki Kiss gave no further details. Malev's 22-plane fleet flies to 40 countries in Europe, the Middle East and North America.

Price rises proposed to cut Greek budget gap

ATHENS (R) — Prime Minister Xenophon Zolotas, whose all-party government was formed to deal with the country's economic crisis, proposed Monday a new wave of price rises to help finance Greece's high budget deficit.

The amount of increases, to be discussed Wednesday among the coalition's conservative, socialist and communist leaders, was not disclosed but includes higher taxes on fuel and cigarettes, higher bus fares and more effective tax collection.

The measures would be the second round of price rises in the past month. In December, the government ordered rises ranging from 18 to 60 per cent. Newspapers described the move as "an aspirin to the problem."

More than a million workers are expected to strike on Jan. 25 protesting against the price rises and campaigning for higher salaries.

The budget deficit for 1989 is expected to top two trillion drachmas (\$12.5 billion), about 22 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP). Greece's output of goods and services.

"If the deficit is not financed the proper way then the only alternative solution is to issue inflationary money," government spokesman Prokopios Pavlopoulos quoted Zolotas as saying.

He said the measures aimed to reduce state borrowing by 2.5 to three per cent of GDP in 1990. GDP for 1989 is forecast at 8.7 trillion drachmas (\$54.5 billion). "If the measures are not taken the state borrowing needs will go up by one per cent," Pavlopoulos said.

Zolotas also proposed cuts on bank subsidies and the immediate introduction of cash registers in all private businesses to help curb tax evasion.

But with elections scheduled for April it is uncertain if the three parties will adopt Zolotas' suggestions.

Analysts say the final programme may include measures to fight widespread tax evasion within the black market economy, estimated to equal 35 per cent of the GDP, but not much else.

Canadian, U.S. firms eye Koor

TEL AVIV (R) — American and Canadian investors are discussing buying ailing Koor Industries Ltd., Israel's largest industrial concern, a treasury official said Monday. He said Shamrock Holdings of California Inc. and the Canadian-American Belzberg Group had separately expressed interest in the trade union-owned conglomerate which is about a billion dollars in debt.

It was uncertain whether Koor's foreign creditors, which sued to liquidate the concern in 1988 over its failure to repay a \$20-million loan, would be willing to back a purchase bid that required further write-offs.

Comecon debates turning point

SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP) — Soviet Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov and other officials Tuesday said the Comecon trading bloc will stick together although it faces a major overhaul to keep pace with reforms in Eastern Europe.

"There is no danger of Comecon falling apart," Ryzhkov told reporters after attending the first closed-door session with premiers from the six East European countries.

His assessment was shared by Czechoslovak Finance Minister Václav Klaus who told reporters, "Comecon will survive in one form or another."

Last week, Klaus startled Westerners and East Europeans by

suggesting that Czechoslovakia would unilaterally abandon its Comecon commitments if the 10-nation trading bloc was not reformed.

His calls for drastic overhaul in a Eastern Europe swept by democratic reforms and the toppling of hard-line communists won support from the reform-minded nations of Poland, Hungary and Romania.

The two-day Comecon meeting, held at the National Culture Palace, was being attended by premiers and top officials from the seven Soviet bloc countries, the premier of Mongolia and vice-premiers from Vietnam and Cuba.

Most of the premiers were meeting for the first time since the ouster of Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu and the decline of communist power in East Germany and Czechoslovakia over the past three months.

The 10-nation organisation includes the Soviet Union, Poland, Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Vietnam, Mongolia and Cuba.

"There have been deep changes in Comecon countries. This session will be a turning point in its activities," said Bulgarian Premier Georgi Atanasov, who opened Tuesday's meeting.

He added, "I hope this session will turn Comecon into an efficient organisation."

He acknowledged that cooperation among member countries is "losing its dynamism," and said that Sofia meeting will also have to consider new forms of cooperation with the European Community and other Western nations.

The agenda for the two-day meeting included coordination of economic plans for 1991-95, the Hungarian state news agency MTI said.

U.S. banks reduce prime lending rate

NEW YORK (AP) — Several big U.S. commercial banks lowered their prime lending rate a half percentage point Monday to 10 per cent, signalling cheaper loans for a broad range of consumers and businesses.

If the reduction, the first in nearly half a year, spreads through the U.S. banking industry, it may eventually benefit Third World debtor nations, many of whose loans have their interest rates tied to the prime rate.

The move reflected the declining cost of money that banks have enjoyed in recent weeks, the result of a more liberal credit policy by the Federal Reserve (Fed), the U.S. central bank.

Citibank and First National Bank of Chicago were the first to cut the key rate. They were later followed by Morgan Guaranty Trust Co., Bankers Trust Co., Continental Bank Corp., Mellon Bank and Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co.

The Fed has been moving to ease interest rates recently in order to forestall a dramatic economic

downturn. Lower rates encourage businesses and consumers to borrow money.

The prime rate is a benchmark that many banks use to calculate a range of other popularly known loan rates, including variable rate home equity loans.

Argentine woes exacerbate

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Leading stocks plunged by 53 per cent Monday when the market reopened for the first time in more than a week. Meanwhile, the government disclosed that inflation in December soared by 40.1 per cent, bringing the 1989 total to a record 4,923 per cent. In more bad news for the government of President Carlos Menem that is implementing its fourth stabilisation plan in six months, the national currency slipped against the U.S. dollar to 1,650 australs per dollar, down from about 1,400-1 last Friday.

It was the sudden devaluation of the austral two weeks ago that ignited price hikes of 100 per cent and more in almost every item that can be found in supermarkets and department stores. The rate last November was 1,000-1 and last February, 17-1.

January inflation likely will be at least 40 per cent due to a carryover effect, acknowledged Moises Iconikoff, planning secretary at the economy ministry.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, January 9, 1990
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	113.6	114.7
U.S. dollar	649.0	655.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	446.8	451.3
Pound Sterling	1071.1	1081.8	Dutch guilder	343.0	346.4
Deutsche mark	387.3	391.2	Swedish crown	405.6	408.7
Swiss franc	424.3	428.5	Italian lira (for 100)	51.8	52.3
			Belgian franc (for 10)	184.1	185.9

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.6560/70	U.S. dollars	
One U.S. dollar	1.1610/20	Canadian dollar	
	1.6710/17	Deutsche marks	
	1.8865/75	Dutch guilders	
	1.5227/37	Swiss francs	
	35.07/12	Belgian francs	
	5.7000/50	French francs	
	1252/1253	Italian lire	
	144.85/95	Japanese yen	
	6.1275/1325	Swedish crowns	
	6.4955/5005	Norwegian crowns	
	6.4885/4935	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	402.40/402.90	U.S. dollars	

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — The market weakened further amid profit-taking and nervousness over a sharp fall in Tokyo. The All Ordinaries Index fell nine points to 1,690.7.

TOKYO — Political rumours and bad news overwhelmed the market, sending investors to the sidelines and pushing prices down as much as 565.07 in the afternoon. They recovered some losses on index buying before the Nikkei Index closed at 37,951.46, down 343.50.

HONG KONG — The Hang Seng Index closed 5.92 higher at 2,822.16 on bargain-hunting but most investors remained uncommitted due to the lack of clear direction.

SINGAPORE — The stock market closed on a mixed note after volatile and moderate trading, brokers said. Gains in index-component stocks sent the Straits Times Industrial Index to a record close of 1,556.48, up 9.06 from Monday.

BOMBAY — Share prices ended mixed on alternate bouts of light buying and selling, with trading characterised by caution. The Bombay Index dropped 3.83 points to 774.50.

FRANKFURT — Japanese buying of West German stocks helped shares surge more than 1.5 per cent. The Dax Index closed 22.70 up at 1,865.94.

ZURICH — Swiss shares rose slightly on easier money market rates. The SPI Index closed at 1,153.4, up four points.

PARIS — Shares ended mixed in this trade. The CAC-40 Index closed up 1.33 points at 1,970.28.

LONDON — Share prices were firm in extremely dull trade after the market reversed earlier weakness as sellers failed to emerge. At 1630 GMT the FTSE index was 2.3 points up at 2,433.6.

NEW YORK — Light profit-taking and some futures-related selling pushed stocks lower but losses were small and volume light. By 1700 GMT, the Dow was off six points at 2,790.00.

THE BETTER HALF. By Herris

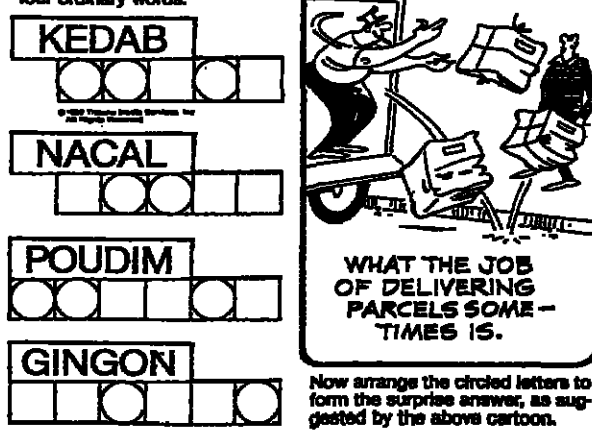
Men's Fragrances



"I want to find the right cologne for my husband's personality. Got anything called 'Big Slob'?"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



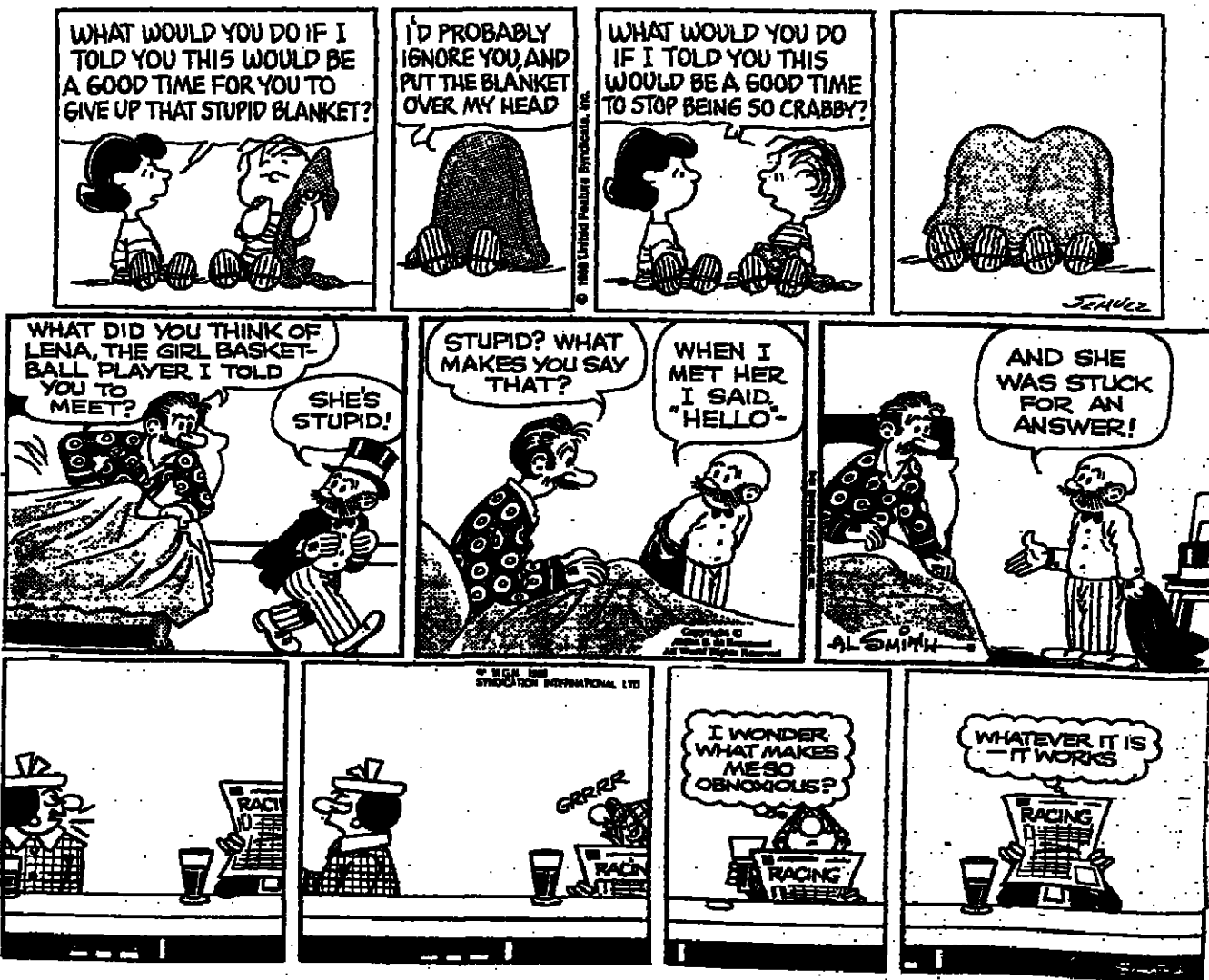
Answer here: -

Yesterday's Jumble: PRIZE DRONE SCARCE DAMASK
Answer: A person of good judgment knows when to speak his mind and when to do this—MIND HOW HE SPEAKS

Peanuts

Mutt'n Jeff

Andy Capp



Ajax players, managers in alleged tax evasion case

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — More than a dozen officials and players of Ajax Amsterdam, one of the Netherlands' most renowned soccer clubs, will have to appear in court in connection with an alleged tax evasion scheme, a prosecutor confirmed here Monday.

The case, into which the Dutch fiscal authorities have been probing for six years, involves the purported overpayment of transfer costs of star players, while their salaries were allegedly downplayed, prosecutor Lod de Wit said.

Formal charges are to be filed later this month, according to de Wit.

He refused to identify the players and officials by name, nor would he specify the amount involved.

But newspapers here reported on Monday that the Dutch internal revenue service had estimated that the Amsterdam club owed 4.7 million guilders (\$2.46 million) in taxes on unreported revenue.

The reports said that the pro-

secution planned to hear former board members Ton Harmsen and Leo Bartels, as well as 11 former players, among them Soeren Lerby, Frank Arnesen, Felix Gasselich, and Henning Jensen.

Court proceedings were expected to begin late in April or early May, weeks before the start of the World Cup tournament in Italy. So far, three Ajax players have been named for the Dutch national side. None of them have been mentioned in connection with the case at issue.

Ajax, 22 times of Netherlands' national champions, rose to the pinnacle of soccer fame when it won the European Champions' Cup three consecutive times in the early 1970s with Johan Cruyff, one of the best forward in Dutch soccer history.

The team ranks second in this season's standings of the Dutch Honor Division, the nation's top soccer league. PSV Eindhoven, which is hunting for its fifth consecutive national title, heads the table.

New Zealand Open:

Guy knocks Mecir out

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (R) — Steve Guy of New Zealand scored the biggest victory of his career when he upset Czechoslovakia's Miloslav Mecir 6-3, 6-3 in the first round of the \$150,000 New Zealand Open tennis tournament.

In another first round match, 21-year-old West German Markus Zöcke came close to dispatching top-seeded Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union.

Mecir, who has not played for a month, struggled to regain his form after badly scraping his foot during an Italian holiday. The Czechoslovak has slipped from

his world number four ranking last year to 25.

Just before going on court, Guy's older brother told him to forget reputations and set his mind on playing a simple game of sound serving and accurate ground strokes.

Guy, ranked 209, did just that. Serving with speed and depth, he refused to a 4-0 lead over Mecir, who last year was runner up to world number one Ivan Lendl in the Australian Masters.

When broken to 30 in the fifth game, Guy steadied and served to 5-2 with beautifully controlled play. After yielding to Mecir's

service, he won the set decisively, losing only one point in the process.

Mecir broke Guy twice in the second set but the New Zealander, who admitted he had played nervously throughout the match, soon broke and thrust on to victory.

Mecir will not be a happy man as he leaves for Melbourne to play the first of the grand slam tournaments, the Australian Open, next week.

"I have not had enough practice," he said. "I think may be I should have practised more."

Zöcke, who just a few weeks ago was dancing to celebrate the breaching of the Berlin Wall in his native city, came close to celebrating even more wildly in his clash against Chesnokov.

Displaying an awesome power on service and off the ground, he went down 7-6 (7-5), 6-7 (4-7) 5-7 to the world number 18 only after a fierce struggle.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY JANUARY 10, 1990
By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Aspects at the Full Moon today afford you an opportunity to make some long range plans where your future security is concerned. An unexpected journey is a definite possibility.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You will now have new ideas for your home which are extremely good now. Your attachment now will become more of a real partner.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Use an opportunity now that gives you a chance to be helpful to a good friend. If workmen are to make repairs at home, this is the time to do it.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Make as many new friends as possible at this time. A forward looking friend has excellent ideas for you in money or business.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Persons with good helpful ideas will come into your home. You will be able to handle basic expenses with good judgement.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A trip with your loved one could be very beneficial now. Be temperate in the amount in which you take on added business responsibilities.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Pursue an important financial matter with an interesting new friend. Business persons will be very helpful to you at this time.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You will have to be exact to keep your financial affairs from

being in a muddle. Be sure you have your plumbing in good order at your home.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Calm down business-wise before you attempt to make any judgement. Take some present to your attachment who now has hurt feelings.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Join with both friends and groups to have a pleasant social time. Be with your attachment today as much as you possibly can.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A new attitude at your home can bring much interest and pleasure. Avoid that trip with friends that would cost considerably.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Try to see friends and acquaintances that have been difficult for you to contact. Entertaining at home requires that you not be preoccupied.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Don't let any of your family change your home or money plans. Adopt a new practical attitude towards your close attachment.

Today's child: If your child were born today he or she will want to know all about the value of gold, silver, government certificates, stock, bonds, property, etc. Anything to do with high-finance will be of special interest to this child and they will want to have an education that defines all of the above.

Hopes of joint Olympics in Berlin move closer to reality

BONN (R) — Hopes of staging a historic joint Olympic Games in East and West Berlin, nurtured in the dust and debris of the Berlin Wall, have been boosted by two new important pledges of support.

The city of Hamburg said on Tuesday it was withdrawing its bid to host the 2000 or 2004 games to switch its support to Berlin.

East Germany's National Olympic Committee (NOC) gave official approval to the project at a meeting last week, and West Berlin officials, now want the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to discuss a joint bid at a meeting later this year.

"A dream is coming true — both sides of Berlin will bid together for the games," West German Mayor Walter Momper said.

"We want East Berlin to put together its plans as soon as it can so that both sides of Berlin can

work together with the two Olympic committees to make the plans reality."

Berlin last staged the games in 1936.

Hans-Juergen Kuhn, who heads West Berlin council's Olympic organisation committee, said the two states needed to reach a political agreement on the issue and sharpen their plans before an IOC meeting next September.

"We want the IOC then (in September) to discuss the fact we are prepared to stage the games," Kuhn said. "It is no longer a question of whether Berlin will hold the games but how they will hold them."

The IOC will decide on the venue for the 1996 games at its Tokyo session in September. It is believed to be sympathetic towards the idea of a joint Berlin games, but is not scheduled to decide on the 2000 Olympic venue before 1993.

Hamburg's... withdrawal from West Germany's Olympic race, announced by mayor Henning Voscherau, came as a boost to Berlin but a surprise to the rest of West Germany's Olympic candidates.

It recently agreed with rival candidates Frankfurt, Stuttgart and the Ruhr region that they would abandon their plans only when the Berlin bid was certain.

If it is to have any chance of clinching the most prestigious event in sport Berlin will need to build and save money fast.

Early estimates expect the bill for the games to total around 3.75 billion marks (\$2.2 billion), although the bid is sure to attract support from industry and commerce in West Germany, one of the world's strongest economies.

Apart from a solitary West Berlin stadium which holds 3,000, Berlin cannot presently boast any arenas capable of hosting Olympic competition.

Diplomatic drive defuses Commonwealth Games boycott

By David Stamp

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — New Zealand, once denounced for sporting ties with South Africa, has defused a boycott threat to the Commonwealth Games with a drive to clean up its international reputation on fighting apartheid.

Only six months ago the Auckland Games faced a repeat of the African-led boycott which ruined the 1986 Edinburgh Games. But now organisers and the government are confident of the biggest turnout in Commonwealth Games history when they open on January 24.

"The success of these games, and it now looks as though they are going to be very well attended... is safeguarded by the very extensive diplomatic effort that we've undertaken in the last 18 months," said foreign minister Russell Marshall.

"If anything provocative is now done in the next three weeks I would be extremely surprised if any notice was taken of it," he

told Reuters.

New Zealand has long been the centre of storms about sporting contacts with South Africa, mainly over rugby. The New Zealand All Blacks and the South African Springboks are generally recognised to be the best rugby union teams in the world.

In 1976, 23 African nations boycotted the Montreal Olympics after the International Olympic Committee refused to expel New Zealand for sending the All Blacks to South Africa.

Five years later New Zealand was split when the Springboks paid a return visit. Anti-apartheid protesters fought pitched battles with police and rugby fans during the tour.

Under the Labour government, which came to power in 1984, New Zealand has drastically cut sports ties with South Africa.

But hopes of a full turnout in May when the Organisation of African Unity threatened a boycott over a rugby tour of South Africa by a group of international players, English crick-

eters struck a further blow in July when they announced a rebel series in the republic starting the same day the Auckland Games begin.

Although in both cases British rather than New Zealand sportsmen were involved, Marshall admitted to some anxious moments. "The consideration of some boycott or pressure for the British teams to be thrown out was very much in people's minds."

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's refusal to impose economic sanctions on South Africa sparked a walkout at the Edinburgh Games, with India and Malaysia joining African and Caribbean teams.

With sponsors fleeing the prospect of another debacle, games organisers and the government stepped up the diplomatic campaign.

The foreign ministers of Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Zambia visited Auckland while Marshall pushed the New Zealand line at United Nations and Common-

wealth meetings.

Marshall admitted that memories of the 1981 Springbok tour were still fresh in Africa.

But he said that with hindsight a Commonwealth foreign ministers' meeting in Canberra last August had proved the turning point. "There was a general acceptance that any boycott would be detrimental to the Africans themselves, to New Zealand and would only benefit South Africa."

"We didn't want South Africa to win a (public relations) victory," he said. "A boycott would prove to the world and to the Commonwealth that South Africa still had the capacity to disrupt an important Commonwealth institution, and that would give them satisfaction."

But not all New Zealanders share Marshall's views. "There's a widespread perception that the New Zealand Labour government has a strong anti-apartheid policy," said John Minto of the campaign group HART (Halt All Racist Tours).

Ordinary Housman poised to glide past the world

By Robert Kitson

SYDNEY — The tanned, rugged Aussie battler still tends to be most people's idea of an Australian sporting hero. Then there's Glen Housman.

Housman is a pale, gawky 18-year-old country boy from Queensland who is on the brink of becoming the fastest long-distance swimmer of all time.

He lodges with his elder sister in an obscure suburb of Brisbane and looks as though he would

have problems being served in a pub. In the pool, however, he is anything but ordinary.

Last month in Adelaide he swam the fastest 1,500 metres in history, only to be denied the privilege of breaking a six-year-old world record by a technical hitch.

The International Swimming Federation, world swimming's governing body, refused to ratify Housman's hand-stopped time of 14 minutes 53.59 seconds because the automatic timing equipment failed to register his touch at the

end of the final length.

Legendary Soviet Vladimir Salnikov therefore remains the official record-holder with a time 1.17 seconds slower.

Such a crushing disappointment would have devastated most athletes.

Housman, informed of the bad news in the middle of a hastily-convened press conference, muttered "thanks a lot matey" to the embarrassed official and wandered away without another word. Even the most cynical scribes were impressed.

His response could well come during the Commonwealth Games later this month when the rest of the world is set to discover Australia has found another swimming champion to follow in the wake of Dawn Fraser, Steve Holland and Tracey Wickham.

Auckland will also provide a chance to examine what must be one of the most unusual coaching systems in modern sport.

Housman's 25-year-old coach,

Ian Findlay, is a disciple of the revered Australian swimming guru Laurie Lawrence, whose methods have been described as bordering on the sadistic.

They say you have to be a little bit mad to swim the 1,500 metres in the first place and Lawrence, a former rugby union scrum-half, makes a habit of pushing his charges even closer to the edge.

The story goes that one young swimmer complained he could no longer cope with Lawrence's punishing training routines.

Lawrence went over to a nearby wall, scraped his knuckles down the bricks and then returned to the poolside with blood and torn skin prominent. "That's pain, sonny," he said. "Now let's finish those lengths."

After the record-tying wasn't in Adelaide, Lawrence informed Housman that he was, in his opinion, "a weak little mongrel" because he failed to go out the next day and beat the record again.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1989 United Media Services, Inc.

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠72 ♣KQ95 ♠AKM2 ♠AJ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠36 ♣AQJ1084 ♠A93 ♠Q6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
What action do you take?

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A72 ♣AQK82 ♠KQ6 ♠Q5
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 3 ♠ 7
What action do you take?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AJ ♣K983 ♠AKQ ♠KQ9
What is your opening bid?

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K ♣722 ♠AKQ1074 ♠AQJ
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠54 ♣Veld ♠J87 ♠AKQ962
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠ 3 ♠
What action do you take?

THE Daily Crossword by Frank Garry

ACROSS

- Swift home
- Berlin's New
- Ally hazard
- "Two Years Before the Mast" author
- Seashell
- Fear pickup
- Spent
- Debutant
- Son of Zeus
- 20 Sisy
- Factor
- Gr. Island
- Ditto
- Poorly done
- Truce
- Artist Edouard
- Less common
- Diamond
- East of song
- Disconcerted
- Source of supply
42. 43.
44. CIA signature
45. War play
46. Main course
47. Kind of rope
48. Time — half
49. Mt. West
50. Bathroom
51. Cruel comedy
52. "Therapy" — (denom)
53. Gr. creature
54. Travelled
55. Realized
56. Impression
57. Terrified
58. Elegant style
59. Appointment

DOWN

- Total
- Shore bird
- Shore visitor
- Slicking
- Instrument
- Spatter
- Philly
- Frolic
- Compulse
- For each
- Put on
- Home
- The yoke's on
13. Main point
21. Emcee
22. USA word
23. Served well
24. Photo feature
25. Linda of "Alice"
26. Unsettled
27. Verbal
28. Shree
29. All ed.
30. A Beatie
31. Ice
32. Red and
33. Roush
34. Liz Taylor's husband once
35. Gambling town
41. Resorts
42. Worn out
43. Outraged
44. Moving about
45. GWTW place
46. Lined up
47. Unclothed
52. Sch. subj.
53. Elm output
54. Templeton
55. Brainhold
56. Coin
57. Jackson or
58. Smith

MINIS Management Consultants, the leading Jordanian management consulting company, with 80% of its professional staff consisting of Jordanian nationals, currently needs to fill the following full-time positions in response to our growing consulting business in Jordan and the region:

Senior Consultant, Marketing

Our rapidly growing marketing practice seeks an experienced marketing consultant, to become project leader in marketing feasibility and marketing strategy projects in a number of manufacturing and service industries. Candidates will have an MBA degree in marketing from a recognized U.S. or European business school, and 3-5 years of work experience either in an international consulting firm, or in a marketing capacity in an international firm. This position will require the willingness to travel several weeks at a time in the region as well as strong interpersonal, presentation and writing skills.

Consultant, Marketing

We are in need of an experienced marketing consultant with experience gained either in an international marketing consulting organization, or working as a marketing manager in an international firm for 2-4 years. Candidates will have an MBA degree in marketing from a recognized U.S. or European business school. This position will require the willingness to travel several weeks at a time in the region as well as strong interpersonal, presentation and writing skills.

Candidates for both positions need to be Jordanian citizens, with fluency in Arabic and English; and are expected to show a high level of commitment and motivation, team spirit, and willingness for hard work.

MMIS offers significant opportunities for career advancement, international training and personal development as well as attractive remuneration and benefits.

Qualified candidates are requested to submit resume/curriculum vitae of their educational and work experience no later than January 30, 1990 to:

MINIS Management Consultants

Jordan Institute of Management/Industrial Development Bank
PO Box 7976, Amman, Jordan
Phone: 649040 Fax: 649041

Cinema Tel: 625155

RAINBOW

LICENCE TO KILL

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 677420

CONCORD

Rob Lowe... in

OXFORD BLUES

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 634144

PHILADELPHIA

SEEMS LIKE OLD TIMES

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 675571

NIJOM

Rock Moranis... in

Honey, I Shrunk The Kids

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30, Fridays and Sundays extra shows at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema Tel: 674111

PLAZA

SUMMER SCHOOL

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cambodian rebels launch grenade attack in capital

BANGKOK (Agencies) — Khmer Rouge guerrillas claimed Tuesday that they sent Cambodia's president and premier fleeing to Vietnam with a grenade attack on the capital in which soldiers and policemen were killed.

The reported attack Saturday would be the most serious in Phnom Penh, which has been largely spared in an 11-year-old guerrilla war against the Vietnamese-installed government. However, it could not be verified and some previous Khmer Rouge claims have proved exaggerated. The Cambodian News Agency SPK claimed the weekend was peaceful in the Cambodian capital.

However, Khmer Rouge army radio said that after the rebel attack on Phnom Penh, Vietnam immediately sent Prime Minister Hun Sen and President Heng Samrin and other leaders to Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City.

The broadcast monitored in Bangkok said the security prevented Hun Sen from meeting in Phnom Penh with Michael Costello, Australia's deputy foreign secretary. Instead, it said, Hun Sen went from Ho Chi Minh City to Cambodia's eastern Svay Rieng province bordering Vietnam to meet with the envoy.

Costello told reporters upon arriving in Bangkok Tuesday that the meeting was arranged for Svay Rieng "well before" the Khmer Rouge attack was alleged to have taken place. He could not confirm the Phnom Penh attacks.

Allied non-Communist forces led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Tuesday that resistance agents had waged a series of grenade attacks last month, saying one grenade a day was exploded in the capital between Dec. 5 and 10.

Their statement said 15 Vietnamese civilians, one Vietnamese "expert" and two Cambodian policemen were wounded in attacks near Hun Sen's house on Dec. 7, and the royal palace and the Defence Ministry on unspecified dates.

No one was reported injured in the grenade attack near the premier's house.

SPK, monitored in Bangkok Tuesday, did not mention any

dia after 11 years of fighting. Also due in was Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister on South-East Asian Affairs, Lu Xuejian.

Officials said they could not rule out the possibility Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen might make a surprise visit to Bangkok.

On the eve of his visit to Bangkok, Alatas told reporters he held talks with representatives of Cambodia's tripartite rebel coalition and Thai Foreign Minister Sittida Savetalla on Australia's plan.

Under the plan, Cambodia's seat at the United Nations, now held by the rebel Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, would be left vacant until a new government came to power.

Alatas said he was prepared to hold a new round of peace talks in Jakarta if the warring factions showed signs they were willing to compromise.

Thai officials said many of the visiting politicians were due to attend a three-day private meeting in the northern Thai city of Chiang Mai to discuss the future of the Asia-Pacific region, in particular Cambodia.

A senior Soviet official arrived in Peking Tuesday for talks on Cambodia prior to a U.N. Security Council meeting on resolving the Cambodian conflict.

Deputy Foreign Minister for Asian Affairs Igor Rogachev planned to spend between four and five days in Peking for talks with Chinese Foreign Ministry officials on Cambodia, Soviet embassy spokesman Yuri Lyenko said.

Lyenko said it was likely the two sides would discuss a recent proposal advanced by Australia, for the Vietnam-backed government in Phnom Penh to be replaced by an interim U.N. administration until free elections can be held.

The Soviet Union has responded positively to the Australian proposal. China has taken a less clear-cut stand, saying it supports a U.N. role in bringing peace to Cambodia but has not withdrawn its support from the peace plan of resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Meanwhile a new diplomatic initiative to revive stalled Cambodia peace talks was gathering momentum Tuesday amid signs that warring Cambodian factions were stepping up preparations for their dry-season offensives.

Thai officials said Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, Costello and Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co were due to arrive in Bangkok in the next 24 hours in a renewed attempt to bring peace to Cambo-

At least 6 killed in S. African strike clash

JOHANNESBURG (R) — At least six people were killed Tuesday in a clash near Johannesburg between striking South African transport workers and employees opposed to the stoppage, police said.

"The latest we have is six people killed and 18 injured but it is possible this number may rise," a police spokesman said.

The casualties occurred when two groups of blacks armed with clubs and large knives fought on a platform at a railway station in Germiston, a drab industrial town east of Johannesburg, police spokesman Captain Ruben Bloomberg said.

It was the most violent incident in a nine-week-old stoppage by workers of the state-owned South African Transport Services (SATS) who are pressing for recognition of their union and higher pay.

Tuesday's clash brought to 22 the number of people killed in violence related to the stoppage.

Lawyers for the South African Railways and Harbour Workers Union told reporters that pitched battles broke out when a trainload of striking workers arrived at Germiston for a union meeting.

Crowds of non-striking workers were waiting on the platform and fighting erupted.

Police arrived and fired teargas to disperse the mobs.

An hour later several bodies wrapped in plastic were wheeled out of the station to waiting ambulances, watched quietly by hundreds of tense, black onlookers.

Spots of blood covered the platform where the clash took place.

SATS, which runs most railways and all harbours and airports, has dismissed more than 22,000 strikers — about a quarter of its black workforce — during the dispute.

It estimates violence related to the stoppage has caused damage to its property worth 39 million rand (\$15.3 million).

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the country's biggest labour federation, said it had reports that 25 people had been killed and more than 50 injured.

COSATU spokesman Neil Coleman said most of the casualties were strikers and ordinary commuters.

He said 2,000 non-striking uniformed SATS staff flanked by police had pelted the strikers with stones as they disembarked.

"It was just a massacre," Coleman said.

A white post office worker who witnessed the melee said: "It was terrible, terrible."

"Look at that blood," he said, pointing to a dark stain on the platform. "There was a man on the ground and others were hitting him with sticks, over and over again."

Police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman denied the allegations of police involvement in the violence.

"Independent people will tell you police acted responsibly to end the violence," he said.

Opperman said the fighting

pitted 1,000 non-striking SATS staff against 500 to 800 strikers and lasted between half and three quarters of an hour.

Mandela to be free soon

In a separate development black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela expects to be freed from prison within a matter of weeks and President F.W. de Klerk has pledged to maintain a fast tempo of reform in South Africa.

Mandela's wife Winnie said he had asked her during a prison meeting Monday to begin making preliminary arrangements for his release.

"This is the first time that I have accepted as a reality that he will be released this year," Winnie Mandela said after visiting the African National Congress (ANC) leader at his bungalow quarters in the Victor Verster Prison north east of Cape Town.

"I don't think we are talking about months any longer," she told reporters.

Speculation has been rife for months that De Klerk would soon free Mandela whose liberty, frequently demanded by foreign governments, is seen by most black South African leaders as a precondition for talks on ending apartheid.

Until Monday Mandela, 71, had dampened such speculation.

Asked whether her husband was excited, Winnie Mandela said: "He has no emotions left after 27 years in prison."

At a meeting on Monday in Pretoria with British centrist politician David Owen, De Klerk

said he would push ahead with reforms aimed at preparing the ground for negotiations with black leaders on constitutional change.

"He said quite openly to me that he was in a hurry. He is going to move fast, he wants to keep the momentum going," Owen, head of the Social Democratic Party, said after the meeting.

Owen said the government would announce further reforms in early February when parliament reopens, including lifting or at least partially relaxing the three-year-old nationwide state of emergency.

"And then I think it is quite likely that Nelson Mandela will come out, in late February or early March," Owen told the British Broadcasting Corporation in an interview.

Before talks can begin, the exiled ANC and its internal allies want De Klerk to free all political prisoners, lift restrictions on opposition organisations including the ANC, and emergency rule and remove security forces from black townships.

So far the government has made several gestures, including the Oct. 15 release of Mandela's close colleague Walter Sisulu and six other leading ANC veterans, convicted with him in 1964 of plotting to overthrow the white government.

The government has given passports to Sisulu and the others so that they can visit their exiled colleagues in Lusaka for talks and it has tolerated public rallies by the outlawed ANC.

COLUMN 8

Hoaxer claims \$35m lottery win

NEW YORK (R) — It was every editor's nightmare — a hoax that landed on page one and was the top story on the television news. The hoax was a young woman's widely-trumpeted claim that she was the lone winner of the \$35 million New York State Lottery, the largest single prize in the contest's history. The woman calling herself Charlie Taylor, and accomplices hired a \$400 a night hotel suite and called in the press to celebrate her "victory" with champagne. But Taylor was lying and her claim was an event carefully orchestrated by professional hoaxer Alan Abel, who once convinced the New York Times into printing his obituary and on another occasion lured about 30 reporters in a room to meet an actor posing as a "deep throat" of Watergate fame. The New York Post put the story on page one headlined "35 million and she's single." The Times ran a story on the lottery on an inside page and reported that the woman had claimed a win. But the Daily News blared, "It's a hoax." The paper said its reporter Ingrid Devita went up to the hotel suite and noticed a sign on a room that said, "slumber room, do not disturb." She opened the door and recognised Abel because she once took a course he gave on practical joking. Abel showed no remorse. "People are a bit upset but we are a group of merry pranksters, so what can you do?" he said. State lottery officials said the real winner has not yet stepped forward.

Seoul police crack down on bars

SEOUL (R) — South Korean police are cracking down on bars and discos open after midnight, strictly enforcing a new law designed to curb consumer spending and reduce crime. Yonhap News Agency said police found in a single night 544 entertainment spots in violation. Two hundred people are being investigated and could be fined up to \$4,400 each or sentenced to up to a year in jail, Yonhap said. Only bars and discos in hotels and entertainment spots catering mainly to foreigners may remain open after midnight under the law, implemented on Jan. 1.

Achievement awards

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Paul McCartney, Dick Clark, Miles Davis, the late Vladimir Horowitz and Nat King Cole will receive lifetime achievement awards at this year's Grammy Awards ceremonies. McCartney, Clark and Davis have agreed to appear on Feb. 21 at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles for the Grammy telecast, said Michael Greene, president of the National Academy of Recording Artists. McCartney's impact on music as a songwriter and member of the Beatles, as well as his continuing growth as a solo performer were cited as reasons for his award. Davis played a crucial role in the development of jazz since the 1940s, the academy said. Horowitz was included because many consider him the 20th century's greatest classical pianist, and Cole was cited as a leading singer of the 1940s and 1950s. The inclusion of Clark was a surprise because he produces the American Music Awards, which competes with the Grammys. The shows are a month apart and many artists will appear on only one show, fearing overexposure. "We don't view these shows as competitive and when you look at the big contribution Clark has made to the recording industry, especially in exposing new talent, there is no question he is deserving," Greene said.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.		MAX.		
	C	F	C	F	W. Weather
AMSTERDAM	05	41	07	45	Cloudy
ATHENS	00	32	11	52	Clear
BAHRAIN	15	59	19	65	Clear
BANGKOK	21	70	74	83	Clear
BEIJING	18	58	28	78	Clear
BOMBAY	08	46	17	63	Clear
CHANGAI	22	78	28	82	Clear
CHONGKING	02	36	08	46	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	01	34	01	34	Cloudy
GENEVA	00	32	08	46	Cloudy
HONG KONG	17	63	21	70	Clear
ISTANBUL	02	36	08	46	Clear
LONDON	08	41	11	52	Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	10	50	21	69	Cloudy
MADRID	01	34	12	54	Clear
MEXICO	15	54	20	68	Cloudy
MONTREAL	-01	30	03	37	Cloudy
MOSCOW	02	28	11	52	Cloudy
NEW DELHI	08	28	01	30	Cloudy
NEW YORK	01	35	08	46	Cloudy
PARIS	05	41	08	46	Clear
ROME	05	41	08	46	Clear
SYDNEY	19	68	21	69	Rain
TOKYO	02	34	11	52	Cloudy
VIENNA	-11	13	04	39	Clear
WARSAW	-10	14	01	34	Cloudy

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Baker to visit Moscow next month

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State James Baker will go to Moscow early next month to try to clear away key obstacles to a new U.S.-Soviet treaty sharply reducing long-range nuclear missiles, U.S. government officials said Monday. Baker also is considering a visit to Prague to demonstrate U.S. support for the peaceful revolution in Czechoslovakia that displaced a hard-line Communist government, the officials told the Associated Press. The trip to Moscow for talks on Feb. 6-7 is one of three sessions Baker intends to hold with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze before a U.S.-Soviet summit meeting in Washington in June. The projected centerpiece of the summit is a treaty slashing U.S. and Soviet arsenals of long-range bombers, submarines and missiles by 50 to 50 per cent.

Shuttle Columbia blasts off

CAPE CANAVERAL (R) — The space shuttle Columbia blasted off Tuesday on a critical satellite-rescue mission, the first manned U.S. space launch of the new decade. With a thunderous roar that shook observation stands five kilometres away, Columbia rose from its launch pad at about 7.35 a.m. (1235 GMT) and cut a path of smoke and flame across a partly cloudy sky. During a 10-day flight, Columbia's five-member crew is to deploy one satellite and retrieve another that is threatening to plunge back to Earth. Thick cloud cover forced the cancellation of Monday's scheduled launch, but the second attempt at getting Columbia off the ground came off flawlessly. "Liftoff for Columbia. A new decade of space flight begins," said Lisa Malone, launch commentator for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). About two minutes later, Columbia's twin solid rocket boosters detached smoothly and fell away.

Cosmonauts take 3-hour walk from Mir

LONDON (R) — The crew of the Soviet space station Mir took a three-hour spacewalk overnight installing new equipment and taking samples of the exterior finish of the craft, the Soviet News Agency TASS reported Tuesday. Alexander Viktorenko and Alexander Serebrov attached two stellar transducers intended to improve the accuracy of Mir's orientation system, said TASS, monitored in London. The cosmonauts left the space station at 2023 GMT and returned safely to the space station after three hours in outer space, the agency said, quoting the mission control centre. Viktorenko and Serebrov, who Monday marked their fourth month in orbit, were in good health and felt well, TASS said.

China to end martial law in Peking

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese leaders prepared Tuesday to declare an end to the 7-month-old martial law in Tiananmen Square and possibly elsewhere in the capital in a gesture aimed at regaining foreign confidence, sources said. The action, expected at midnight (1600 GMT) would be mainly symbolic because troops already have been withdrawn from city streets. It would not indicate greater freedom of dissent, because most activities banned under martial law, such as anti-government demonstrations and speeches, are illegal under other laws.

Jesse Jackson to visit S. Africa

WASHINGTON (AP) — Jesse Jackson said he would soon travel to South Africa following an announcement by the government that it would grant him a long-denied visa. South African Foreign Minister P.W. Botha announced Monday that the government has told Jackson he "will be welcome to come to South Africa and the necessary visa will be issued to him to travel to South Africa at a mutually convenient time." Jackson, a former presidential candidate and civil rights leader, said the government's decision and the recent release of several leaders of the banned African National Congress demonstrates that "some walls have come down."

Aquino: Next coup may succeed if people stay neutral

MANILA (R) — Philippine President Corason Aquino warned Tuesday that a new coup attempt could overthrow her and plunge the country into "nightmarish bloodbaths" unless the people rallied to her defence.

The military announced it had ordered tighter security at a stockade for political prisoners in Manila after uncovering a plan by rebel soldiers to rescue leaders of last month's failed army rebellion.

Aquino, in a speech to police officers, said mutineers who wanted to overthrow her would bring a new reign of terror and tyranny to the Philippines.

"The nation would continue to live under a shadow of fear so long as members of the military believed they could change the government by force," she said.

"For as long as the gun will be used to cow the unarmed into silent obedience, and as long as the citizenry will allow itself to be badgered into submission, there will always be a possibility that the force and the will of an armed few may prevail over the many," Aquino warned.

She urged Filipinos to "unite and help us break once and for all this sinister threat to our freedom and prosperity."

"For if our people will allow armed might to supplant this constitutional government," she said, "surely there will be no end to nightmarish bloodbaths such as those happening elsewhere in the world."

Aquino, who took office in a popular 1986 revolt that toppled the late President Ferdinand Marcos, said democracy in the Philippines was threatened by armed powerbrokers and politicians driven by "overpowering greed and ambition."

More than 100 people were killed and hundreds wounded in December in the sixth and most serious attempt to topple Aquino. Army rebels have threatened to try again, accusing her government of corruption, inefficiency and weak leadership.

Aquino said only a very small portion of the military took part in the mutiny, dismissing press reports quoting a captured rebel officer as saying he believed most of the armed forces were involved.

Prague: Soviets should leave by year's end

PRAGUE (Agencies) — The Soviet Union's estimated 80,000 troops in Czechoslovakia, deployed after the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion, should pull out by the end of this year, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday.

"I suggest that the Soviet troops should withdraw from Czechoslovakia by the end of 1990," spokesman Labos Dobrovsky was quoted as saying by CTI, which gave no further details of his comments.

Meanwhile two leading Communist Party members in Czechoslovakia's "national consensus government" have resigned from the party, leaving it in a clear minority on the cabinet.

Václav Komarek, the government's economic overlord and first deputy prime minister, had just handed in his resignation, Communist Party spokesman Josef Hora told journalists Monday.

Vladimir Dlouhy, deputy prime minister and head of the state planning office, left at the end of December.

Kaifu pledges Japan's aid to East Europe

BONN (R) — Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, opening a 10-day European tour, said Tuesday Japan would aid East Europe as part of its global responsibilities.

In a meeting with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Kaifu also said Japan supported the eventual reunification of Germany based on a 10-point plan proposed by Kohl in November, Japanese officials travelling with him said.

Kaifu was scheduled later to fly to West Berlin to deliver a keynote speech outlining Japan's new diplomacy towards Europe and unveiling a billion dollar aid package to Poland and Hungary.

Moscow blasts Lithuanians before Gorbachev visit

MOSCOW (AP) — The Kremlin's ideology chief has told Lithuanian Communists that their break with Moscow is a blow to perestroika at its most critical juncture.

Vadim Medvedev, a member of the ruling politburo, made the comment as he laid the groundwork for a trip to Lithuania this week by President Mikhail Gorbachev. The visit that will test the Soviet leader's ability to end one of the most serious political crises of his leadership.

Medvedev told Communists and workers at a factory in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital, that the Dec. 20 decision by the republic's Communist Party to declare independence from the national party affects "inter-ethnic relations and national-state structure and economic reforms," the official Soviet News Agency, TASS, said. The TASS report did not say how economic reforms would be damaged.

"The decisions made by the 20th congress of the Lithuanian Communist Party are a blow to the Soviet Communist Party's unity, to the construction of a revitalized federation and to all of perestroika (economic restructuring)," TASS said, paraphrasing Medvedev.

He also characterised it as "an expression of no-confidence in the Soviet Communist Party and its course for perestroika, as a blow to perestroika at the most critical time of its development."

In remarks carried by Soviet TV, he called on Lithuanian Communists to compromise. "Nobody is against independence," he told factory workers in remarks. "But let this be together

E. German Communists predict rough elections

WEST BERLIN (Agencies) — East Germany's embattled Communists said Tuesday a rough election campaign may be ahead, adding they want to limit the number of "punches below the belt" before the free balloting in May.

The Communists, plagued by a wave of resignations, have launched a virtual counter-offensive to regain the initiative before the vote of May 6.

Still in control of the nation's media, key meeting places and supplies of such essentials as paper, the Communists have been accused of unfairly exploiting their power.

The Communist Party newspaper Berliner Zeitung reminded its readers Tuesday that the various opposition groups are running for the first time and claimed many candidates feel the need to virtually shove opponents out of the way.

"All this leads to the fear that it could get especially rough in the coming weeks," the Berliner Zeitung said in reference to the just-starting election campaign.

The newspaper's commentary said, however, that such rough-going could be kept in check if all sides reach a fair agreement specifying campaign conduct.

Experience shows that punches below the belt can't really be avoided through such an agreement, but they can be kept to a tolerable amount," the Berliner Zeitung continued.

The Communists in effect are fighting for their political survival in East Germany, which is plagued by shortages of consumer goods and low worker morale.

More than 1,000 East Germans still reside in West Germany each day, joining the 340,000 who reached the West last year alone.

East German Communists also reacted angrily to West German television plans to beam election information programmes into East Germany.

However, the guards retreated to "avoid bloodletting," the newspaper said.

After the protesters passed through the frontier, they destroyed the border posts so that the border between Azerbaijan's Nakhichevan region and Iran is without defences, Izvestia said.

The violence was the latest since protests broke out Dec. 31. Thousands of Azerbaijanis demanding open borders and unification with their ethnic brethren in Iran have destroyed guard observation towers, electronic alarms and communications lines along the border.

In another part of Azerbaijan, the official Soviet News Agency TASS said acts of sabotage, hostage-taking, and sniper fire are continuing in the disputed district of Nagorno-Karabakh. A bridge on the highway between the cities of Agdam and Askeran was blown up Thursday and four days later, a powerful blast damaged a railway bridge near Agdam, forcing suspension of traffic.

Nagorno-Karabakh has been torn by strikes and violence for two years as Armenians who dominate the population battle Azerbaijanis for control over the mountainous territory.